

# DRIVE



## JOBIM CARLOS

*Pro-am romp spurs former amateur hotshot's PGT surge*

## PRINCESS SUPERAL

*Former US Girls Junior princess emerges LPGT queen*

# BREAKTHROUGHS

### PGT GOING GREAT GUNS



### PGT ASIA LEVELING UP



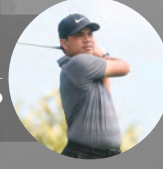
### LPGT KEEPS SWINGING



### DOTTIE ARDINA BOUND FOR LPGA TOUR GLORY



### MIGUEL TABUENA CENTENNIAL PHL OPEN CHAMP



### MICAH SHIN POUNDS OUT RECORD TCC WIN







# Our commitment to driving progress has defined us for over 100 years.

It is how we have grown businesses and industries, lives and livelihoods. And as we forge ahead, it will continue to be our singular thread, our north star.

Because for us at Aboitiz, advancing business and communities is one and the same. Creating value, led by values. Delivering profits, guided by purpose. Our approach is anchored in our belief that the growth of people—and their interests—is fundamental to the development of our society, our country, and the world.

It's why we are focused on creating the foundation people need to grow, from nation-building infrastructure to smart banking, from supporting entrepreneurs to providing expert solutions.

And at the heart of all we do will always be our deep sense of responsibility—relentlessly seeking ways to integrate economic growth with societal good to create meaningful progress that drives change for a better world.

**abotiz**

ADVANCING BUSINESS AND COMMUNITIES

[www.abotiz.com](http://www.abotiz.com)



Let the stars guide you home



Like the finest wines, we get better with time. 2019 marks our third 5-star award from Forbes Travel Guide.



Asean Avenue, Entertainment City | Tambo, Parañaque City 1701 Philippines  
ASC REF NO.: S007P021519SW



# TABLE OF CONTENTS



## PGT EVENTS

- 12 EAGLE RIDGE CHALLENGE
- 14 PHILIPPINE MASTERS
- 16 APO GOLF INVITATIONAL
- 18 DEL MONTE CHAMPIONSHIP
- 20 PUEBLO DE ORO CHAMPIONSHIP
- 22 BACOLOD GOLF CHALLENGE
- 24 NEGROS OCCIDENTAL CLASSIC
- 26 ILOILO GOLF CHALLENGE
- 28 CLUB FILIPINO DE CEBU INVITATIONAL
- 30 LUISITA INVITATIONAL



**32**  
TCC  
INVITATIONAL



## PGTA EVENTS

- 36 LUISITA CHAMPIONSHIP
- 38 RIVIERA CLASSIC
- 40 SOUTHWOODS GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP
- 42 FOREST HILLS CHAMPIONSHIP
- 44 ABOITIZ INVITATIONAL
- 46 CAT OPEN
- 48 SUMMIT POINT WORLD 18 CHALLENGE



## LPGT EVENTS

- 60 AYALA GREENFIELD CHALLENGE
- 62 BEVERLY PLACE CLASSIC
- 64 EAGLE RIDGE INVITATIONAL
- 66 SPLENDIDO CLASSIC
- 68 TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS CHALLENGE
- 70 RIVIERA CLASSIC
- 72 LUISITA CHAMPIONSHIP
- 74 MT. MALARAYAT CLASSIC
- 76 WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP AT SUMMIT POINT
- 78 CHAMPION TOUR AT SOUTHWOODS (TLPGA/LPGT)
- 80 CHAMPION TOUR AT MIDLANDS (TLPGA/LPGT)
- 82 PARTY GOLFERS OPEN (TLPGA/LPGT)



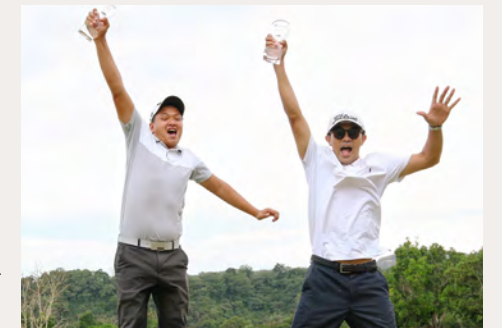
**86**  
SOLAIRE  
PHILIPPINE  
OPEN



**88**  
DOTTIE'S DATE  
WITH DESTINY



**90**  
MIGUEL  
TABUENA  
LIVING UP TO  
PROMISE



**92**  
NATIONAL  
PRO-AM



**94**  
ANGELO QUE'S  
ADVOCACY

COVER  
STORY  
50



- 96 2018 BEST COURSE
- 98 2018 BEST OF THE BEST
- 100 2018 ORDER OF MERIT
- 103 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



DRIVE, the Philippine Golf Tour Annual Review, is the official publication of Pilipinas Golf Tournaments Inc.

It is the yearbook of the PGTA Asia, the PGT, the Ladies PGT and the ICTSI Golf Program.

## PGTI MANAGEMENT



**Enrique K. Razon, Jr.**  
CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT

Sports management and promotions through Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc. is part of Mr. Razon's growing business portfolio, which includes port operations, property development, integrated resorts and tourism among others. He is Chairman and President of global port operator International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI), the country's benefactor of golf, The Country Club in Santa Rosa, Laguna, and Solaire Resort and Casino in Entertainment City Manila.

**Narlene A. Soriano**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Soriano has been the Head of ICTSI Public Relations since 1990 and the concurrent Executive Director of the ICTSI Foundation, Inc. since 2010. She is also the Director of Corporate Communications for Bloomberry Resorts Corp., operator of Solaire Resort and Casino. Ms. Soriano manages the ICTSI Golf Program, a sports advocacy program supporting the development of select top amateur and professional golfers in the country. She has been organizing golf tournaments for the Razon Group: the Annual ICTSI Invitational, which started in 1991; The Country Club (TCC) Invitational – Don Pocholo Razon Memorial Cup, which was launched in 2003; and the ICTSI-sponsored golf event of the 23rd Southeast Asian Games in 2005 at the TCC in Santa Rosa, Laguna. A mass communications graduate of the De La Salle University Manila, she is a member of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines, Asia-Pacific Association of Communication Directors and the Public Relations Society of America.



**Maria Socorro S. Ventosa**  
GENERAL MANAGER

Ms. Ventosa has over 20 years experience in advertising and marketing both in the Philippines and the United States. She has held management positions in the Philippine operations of automaker Ford Motor Co. and sports apparel company Nike. Ms. Ventosa started her career in J. Walter Thompson in the ad agency's offices in Manila and San Francisco, California handling key accounts: Chevron, Sprint, Mexicana Airlines, Philippine Airlines, Nike, Ford, Kodak and Unilever. Concurrently, Ms. Ventosa is the General Manager of The Country Club in Santa Rosa, Laguna.



# THE GOLF PROGRAM



In 2005, the Philippine Government called on the private sector to support the hosting of the Philippine Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games). Global port operator International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) responded to the call by supporting the Philippine Golf Team's campaign in the SEA Games and by hosting and co-organizing the Games' golf event at The Country Club (TCC) in Sta. Rosa, Laguna. This sponsorship gave birth to the ICTSI Golf Program with the ICTSI Public Relations Office as program manager.

At that time, ICTSI was on its 13th year of organizing the ICTSI Invitational, attended by over 100 business executives doing business with ICTSI. On one hand, the ICTSI Public Relations Office was on its third year of organizing The Country Club Invitational – Don Pocholo Razon Memorial Cup, the Philippines' richest professional golf tournament established in honor of the late Enrique "Don Pocholo" Razon Sr., ICTSI Founding Chairman. The TCC Invitational is one venue where Enrique K. Razon Jr., ICTSI Chairman and President, supports golf development in the country. Mr. Razon is also the Chairman of the TCC.

The Philippines won the gold and silver medals in the team categories of the men's and ladies events, respectively; and gold and silver medals in the individual men's and ladies categories.

Likewise, ICTSI successfully hosted and co-organized the golf event at the TCC. Since the 2005 SEA Games, ICTSI has been leading the private sector in the development and promotion of golf in the Philippines. The Company has become the country's largest corporate benefactor of the sport.

The ICTSI Golf Program approaches golf development in the Philippines holistically. It primarily focuses on golfer development by providing athletes their training requirements, assistance in competing in local and international tournaments, and by helping sustain a vibrant golfing community in the country. The Program also fosters value formation, instilling honesty, sportsmanship, respect and integrity among its beneficiaries.

The Golf Program selects promising Filipino golfers. It has a golfer management system, which provides personal and athletic development, and long-term career pathing. To achieve these, the Program has two (2) subprograms that journey with a golfer's growth:

## AMATEUR

Through a golfer management system for female amateurs, ICTSI supports select golfers in their training needs, including coaching, physical fitness and provision of equipment and uniforms; home schooling/academic scholarship; and participation in local and international tournaments. The Program follows a strict merit and evaluation system in retaining its beneficiaries. It also assists amateur players in their transition to professional players.

## PROFESSIONAL

Through its sponsorship of the men's and ladies' circuits of the Philippine Golf Tour (PGT) and LPGT, the country's national pro golf league, ICTSI supports the country's professional golfers by providing them with a tournament circuit that showcases their talent, hones their skills, and allows them to earn from the sport. Through a golfer management system for pros, ICTSI assists select players at the top of the Order of Merit of both the men's and ladies circuits in their regional and international campaigns.



In 2015, ICTSI further enhanced the Golf Program, specifically its subprogram for amateurs, by involving its corporate social responsibility unit, the ICTSI Foundation, Inc. Through the Foundation, the Program hopes to include qualified and interested youth from the marginalized sector. These may cover introducing the sport in public schools or include into the Program, indigent youth working informally as ball pickers, caddies and grass cutters, and children of low-income golfers and caddies.

On one hand, the Golf Program is seen to enhance the Foundation's sports program – the third pillar of the Foundation's core advocacy, the youth. Aside from sports, the other two pillars are education and community welfare. The Foundation's programs are designed to provide support mechanisms that would help young beneficiaries develop their full potential.



## Vision

A brighter future for the Filipino golfer: locally, globally.

## Mission

To advance the growth of professional golf in the Philippines and to help promote the country's top golf courses as venues for international tournaments.

PGTI fulfills its vision-mission through a golf program with the Philippine Golf Tour (PGT) as its flagship tournament circuit.

## Goals

### Organization of the Philippine Golf Tour

To provide professionally organized, regular tournaments for professional golfers in the country's leading golf courses.

### Development of world-class Filipino golfers

To select and support upcoming and talented Filipino professional golf athletes in their local and international campaigns.

To support Filipino amateur golfers through the opportunity of participating in the professional tournaments of the PGT.

### Promotion of Philippine Golf worldwide

To help promote Philippine golf courses in particular, and the Philippines in general as a major golfing destination.



# ON THE RIGHT TRACK

THERE ARE telltale signs Philippine golf is on the upswing. Not soaring like an eagle but flying up to par.

All the past year's tournaments – be it on the Philippine Golf Tour, the PGT Asia and the Ladies PGT – have drawn maximum participation, including crack foreigners. More so when these tournaments were held in the provinces.

Apart from the juicy purses provided by local golf's major backer, International Container Terminal Services, Inc., participants were lured by the quality of competition. Pitted against the region's best, Filipino golfers were forced to hone their skills further, spending more time in the driving range, seeking swing check, and joining tournaments abroad.

No wonder, they fared well in the 2018 PGT, occupying seven of the top 10 spots in the Order of Merit (OOM) race, and booking six of 10 OOM slots in 2018 PGT Asia.

Jobim Carlos, a three-year pro, spearheaded the Filipinos' campaign, ruling the PGT money derby with Jhonnell Ababa in second. The duo also took the 1-2 posts in PGT Asia OOM race.

While the Thais won six of 11 LPGT events and put seven in the top 10 of the OOM, the Filipinas also made their

mark with Princess Mary Superal emerging No. 1, Chihiro Ikeda finishing at No. 3 and Cyna Rodriguez placing fifth.

The playing field in both the PGT and the LPGT also seemed to have leveled up with five first time winners in the PGT and three in PGT Asia.

These are the main reasons why Colo Ventosa, general manager of the organizing Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc., is optimistic of the 2019 season, which happens to be the 10th edition (for the PGT), and the PGT Asia.

"Overall, 2018 for PGT

**'THROUGH THE PGT, PGTA AND LPGT, WE WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE AND HELP OUR LOCAL PROS IMPROVE THEIR SKILLS FOR COMPETITIONS HERE AND ABROAD'**

- COLO VENTOSA



and LPGT went well. Players were satisfied and happy with the tour. Our PGT tournaments had fields of over 90 players per tournament and the provincial legs even more."

According to Ventosa, the 2018 PGT Asia season is still ongoing as the calendar year is April 2018 to March 2019.

This early, however, she sees local and regional pros benefiting from their stints in the country's three circuits.

"PGT Asia is giving more professional golfers the opportunity to compete with the best of the best, to hone their skills and compete in other professional tours," said Ventosa.

With special emphasis on the Filipino pros, of course.

"Through the PGT, PGTA and LPGT, we will continue to improve and help our local pros improve their skills for competitions here and abroad," she added.

Miguel Tabuena and Angelo Que, who won on the Asian Tour and Japan PGA Tour, respectively, and Dottie Ardina, who gained a full card on the LPGA Tour, are prime examples, with a slew of young guns ready to step up – and sustain the benefits they gain from the three circuits.



PRINCESS SUPERAL

JOBIM CARLOS

CHIHRO IKEDA

CYNA RODRIGUEZ

JHONNELL ABABA

 **PLDT** + Google Wifi  
Home | Fibr

UNLIMITED FIBR IN EVERY ROOM  
ON EVERY DEVICE.



• Up to 250 Mbps • Whole Home Wifi coverage

75 Mbps minimum speed, 200 Mbps average speed, at 80% service reliability.

• Exclusive with PLDT Home Fibr

[pldthome.com](http://pldthome.com)



# GOING GREAT GUNS

BREAKTHROUGHS,  
THRILLERS  
MARK CIRCUIT'S  
NINTH SEASON



**FIRST TIME** winners swept all but one of the first five crowns of the Philippine Golf Tour, two championships were decided via playoffs while four were claimed in one- or two-stroke fashions.

In another rousing season in the country's long-running circuit, no one dominated the way Miguel Tabuena, Tony Lascuña and Clyde Mondilla did in the last three years until Jobim Carlos found some kind of a spark in team play to fuel what would turn out to be a remarkable third-year campaign.

"Winning the Order of Merit title is every golfer's dream," said the 26-year-old Carlos, who scored two victories and posted four top six finishes to emerge the best of the best after the ninth season of the PGT.

He actually didn't see it coming although he did turn in a decent 12th place finish in the OOM in his rookie season in 2016 that saw him blow a title bid on a sudden death setback to Clyde Mondilla at Eastridge before dropping to 18th the following year.

He even missed the cut in the kickoff leg of the 2018 season at Eagle Ridge won by Dutch Guido Van der Valk, a loss that turned out to be a portent of big things to come for the former amateur hotshot.

A team-up with DJ Padilla netted them the National Pro-Am championship and after a joint third place effort in the Philippine Masters topped by Jerson Balasabas, things started to look up for the rising star from Meycauayan, Bulacan.

He scored a breakthrough at Apo, tied for sixth at Del Monte topped by American

Nicolas Paez, placed second at Pueblo de Oro ruled by Korean Kim Joo Hyung, ended up third in Bacolod won by Justin Quiban, nearly upstaged veteran Juvic Pagunsan in a playoff in Negros Occidental, clinched his second win in Iloilo in a victory he spiked with a record-setting 62 in the third round of the ICTSI Iloilo Golf Challenge at the country's oldest club (Iloilo Golf and Country Club) to all but secure the coveted OOM diadem.

He said hard work, determination, dedication and patience were the key to his rise as the country's premier player, joining the ranks of such talents as Tabuena, Lascuña, Mondilla and Jay Bayron.

While admitting that he still has lots to learn to become a complete player, he never hesitated to share his secrets to early success with the young aspiring golfers.

"Do not rush things up. Don't be lured by what's in store in the pros. Don't turn pro if you think you're not yet ripe to match skills with the veterans," he said.

He also lauded ICTSI's continuing commitment not only to help develop the sport but also provide the pros the opportunity to earn and become world-class players.

"I was actually a part of the ICTSI training program," said Carlos. "I owed everything to ICTSI. I made my name in golf because of ICTSI."

Through all these, the world's top port management company has remained committed and dedicated to helping improve the skills of the Filipino players and making them at par with the region's best with an eye of producing a world-beater in the near future.

"We have maintained the prize money in the PGT and PGT Asia and we are open and happy to have foreign players play here against our local pros. That's why we have foreign Q-Schools for both the PGT and PGT Asia," said Colo Ventosa, general manager of the organizing Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc.

Heading to the milestone 10th season of the PGT, Ventosa exudes confidence that the circuit will continue to draw more foreign players and further raise the quality of play here.

"We always strive to improve our tour every year," said Ventosa. "And I think, we have done well so far."





# DUTCH TREAT

VAN DER VALK CHECKS SKID TO SCORE ELUSIVE WIN

EAGLE RIDGE CHALLENGE • MARCH 7-10, 2018



I was only able to take control after I made it in two on No. 15 and Jay (Bayron) missed the green

PRIZE MONEY  
P2,500,000

Guido Van Der Valk

	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
NL	72	73	71	76	292	4	P450,000

No, Guido Van der Valk's caddie isn't giving him some jolt from behind for a flubbed birdie bid but just motioning her delight for the putt that sealed the Manila-based Dutchman his breakthrough victory.

**MARCH OFFERED** a tinge of madness on the Philippine Golf Tour with Guido Van der Valk nailing his maiden victory in the Eagle Ridge Challenge.

The windy conditions at the Faldo course of the General Trias, Cavite, layout hardly mattered for the Dutch ace, who blew a two-shot lead with a masterful recovery that nailed him a three-shot victory over Filipino Jay Bayron and American Nicolas Paez.

"It's been awhile," said Van der Valk as he got a warm embrace from his Filipino wife, Loradelle, before hoisting the trophy and banking the P450,000 champion's purse from the P2.5 million total pot.

A long wait indeed for Van der Valk, whose name ranked among the potential challengers then to the likes of Order of Merit winner Clyde Mondilla and one of the country's hottest pros, Tony Lascaña.

Lascaña showed some semblance of a fight in the second round but it was unheralded Ira Alido who upstaged the stellar field by sharing the first day honors with Japanese Toru Nakajima while Bayron survived a front-side meltdown with a second straight 71 to wrest control halfway through.

But in moving day, Van der Valk made significant strides to end a drought and add another trophy to his collection that included two victories in his country way back in 2004 two years after he turned pro and in 2011 when he won a leg on the other regional tour.

"I was only able to take control after I made it in two on No. 15 and Jay (Bayron) missed the green," said Van der Valk, who also credited his wife's all-out support since he joined the local circuit at Splendido in 2013.

Before he could focus on his title run in the final round, Van der Valk had to unnerve himself with his putting in the third round.

"I made sure I was steady with my putts - but I also could not ignore my irons," he said.

Van der Valk resurrected himself from five shots down to move two-up with Bayron fading in blustery conditions at the finish after a scorching start in the third round.

"My putting just clicked since it's hard to get a par and very easy to get a bogey," said the 38-year-old Manila-based native of Lelystad, the Netherlands, who knew he had to hold on if he wanted to end strings of frustrations on the tour.

He melted when he had his best chance at a PGT title against Lascaña in a three-man playoff with Korean-American Micah Shin in Bacolod City in 2016.

Van der Valk actually looked headed to another disastrous campaign when he squandered a two-shot lead early. But he outwit Bayron in a pressure-packed finish, winning it all despite a four-over 76 to finally end years of near misses.

Bayron limped with a 77 and settled for joint second with Paez, who rallied with a 75, at 295.

"This indeed is a breakthrough for me (on the PGT)," said Van der Valk, who could only churn out a third place finish in The Country Club Invitational and the Solaire Philippine Open, both played at the tough The Country Club course before the Eagle Ridge Challenge.

With the drought finally through, Van der Valk could now muster himself and add consistency to his regimen.



**1** Shots from the rough make it tough for Ira Alido to keep his spot at the top **2** Rarely does one see a stoic Richard Sinfuego unleash such a reaction to a muffed putt **3** Superb bunker shots fail to stop Omar Dungca from turning in a sky-high closing 79 **4** While others would raise their arms in triumph, Tony Lascaña does his thing to surrender his bid after closing out with 77 and 79 **5** Some could just be as resourceful to get a top view of the duel being waged down on the fairway **6** Justin Quiban's pose says it all after getting DQ'd right in the first round **7** Two-up at the halfway mark after a pair of 71s, Jay Bayron finds himself two-down with a bogey-marred 76 in the pivotal round **8** Flubbing crucial birdie putts sometimes brings out the best (act) from the best of them, including American Nicolas Paez **9** A well-deserved hug from wife Loradelle for a well-deserved win for Van der Valk.

## FINAL RANKING

EAGLE RIDGE CHALLENGE

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	FERNANDO, MHARK	PHL	78	72	73	76	299	11	P89,500
=	NAKAJIMA, TORU	JPN	70	75	80	74	299	11	P89,500
8	DUNGCA, OMAR	PHI	76	73	72	79	300	12	P59,250
=	SINFUEGO, RICHARD	PHI	76	74	71	79	300	12	P59,250
=	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHI	73	71	77	79	300	12	P59,250
=	REYES, EDWARD	PHL	76	71	75	78	300	12	P59,250

**2** **BAYRON, JAY**  
Philippines  
P250,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	71	76	77	295	7

**2** **PAEZ, NICOLAS**  
USA  
P250,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
73	73	74	75	295	7

**4** **RATES, JOENARD**  
Philippines  
P140,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
74	76	73	73	296	8

**5** **PARK, JUN HYEOK**  
Korea  
P110,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
75	75	75	72	297	9

**EAGLE RIDGE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB (FALDO)**  
Gen. Trias, Cavite

Designed by golf legend, Nick Faldo, the Faldo layout of Eagle Ridge presents a golfing test to players of any level. There is a slew of wide and tight driving holes that always seem to have bunkers in the most unwelcome spots. The putting surface will also test both one's approach shot and putting touch as some will slope radically away from the line of play.



# OVER THE HUMP

BALASABAS NAILS THE BIG ONE, FOILS DUTCHMAN IN PLAYOFF

VILLAMOR PHILIPPINE MASTERS • MAY 23-26, 2018



Now I know how it feels like to win. This one didn't only make my day, but my career, more importantly

PRIZE MONEY  
P2,000,000

Jerson Balasabas

	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	67	72	74	72	285	-3	P550,000

Like his daughter putting up an extra effort to give him a high five, Jessie Balasabas works his butt off to emerge the new Masters champ.



1 Finding one's ball stuck in the roots of a tree is but a normal sight at Villamor 2 Just two behind the leaders after 54 holes, Gerald Rosales fades with wayward shots under the trees of the tight military layout 3 Unable to get a crack at the Masters title, Anthony Fernando settles for taking a shot of the coveted crown 4 Guido Van der Valk must've been asking for a miracle from above after overshooting the green in sudden death 5 Third round joint leader Orlan Sumcad looks for a way out from a troubled lie 6 After another failed title bid, Tony Lascaña looks forward to finally snapping a long title spell 7 Even the young trees come into play for Art Arbole 8 Despite landing on tough spots, Jobim Carlos still manages to get a shared view of the top in the middle rounds.

### HOW SWEET it is to win.

This Jerson Balasabas got to taste following his victory at the Villamor Philippine Masters at its home, a breakthrough after struggling on the local tour since 2010 when he turned pro.

"Now I know how it feels like to win," said Balasabas, who recovered from a wobbly finish in regulation and edged Dutch Guido Van der Valk in the first sudden death hole to snare the crown.

A former amateur standout, Balasabas didn't budge in the pressure-packed windup and with a routine par at the par-5 18th of the military layout, danced his way to the bank.

Van der Valk overshot the green and muffed his par-putt bid from 15 feet to miss his chance at a second crown on the Philippine Golf Tour after scoring a breakthrough win at Eagle Ridge.

"I'm glad to get over the hump," a relieved Balasabas said, taking a deep breath to shake off his disappointment after blowing a two-stroke lead with three holes left in regulation that denied him of a victory without going through a playoff.

He bogeyed No. 16 against Van der Valk's birdie. The Filipino closed out with a 72 while the Manila-based ace from Lelystad, the Netherlands, fought back with a 70 to force a playoff at 285.

"This one didn't only make my day, but my career, more importantly," said Balasabas, who pocketed P550,000.

He actually wavered in the third round with a 74 and slipped to joint third with Joenard Rates, who also fumbled with a 75, at 213, leaving Orlan Sumcad, who fought back with a 69, and Jobim Carlos, who also hobbled with a 74, on top at 212.

Nilo Salahog and Gerald Rosales assembled identical 214s after a 70 and 73, respectively, and looked bound to force a wild, wooly finish the way it was in the revival of the fabled event in 2017.

Revved up by his performance at Eagle Ridge, Van der Valk was very much in the hunt for back-to-back feats in the playoff. But golf

indeed has its way of making champions and denying others of the chance.

The finish could have been wilder had third-round leader Carlos steadied himself. He missed the playoff with a flubbed birdie putt on the 18th for a 74 for joint third at 286 with Tony Lascaña, who also failed to birdie the final hole and fell short of a playoff with a 71.

Exactness was Villamor's backside that most of the contenders wavered – but not the title-hungry Balasabas.

"I'll definitely cherish this victory. The stars were there ready for the challenge, but I managed not to waver," Balasabas said.

True to its pre-tournament hype, the event headed to a gripping finish that has marked each Masters staging.

## FINAL RANKING

### PHILIPPINE MASTERS

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
=	SHIN, LAUREN	USA	74	74	70	70	288	0	P122,500
7	SALAHOG, NILO	PHI	75	69	70	75	289	1	P92,500
8	VILLACENCIO, ARNOLD	PHI	71	76	72	70	289	1	P92,500
9	MARABE, ROLANDO, JR.	PHI	74	70	74	72	290	2	P75,000
10	ROSALES, GERALD	PHI	70	71	73	77	291	3	P62,666
=	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHL	72	74	72	73	291	3	P62,666
=	PUCAY, MARS	PHL	70	76	75	70	291	3	P62,666

**2** **VAN DER VALK, GUIDO**  
Netherlands  
P370,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
72	71	72	70	285	-3

**3** **CARLOS, JOBIM**  
Philippines  
P190,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
67	71	74	74	286	-2

**3** **LASCAÑA, TONY**  
Philippines  
P190,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
73	72	70	71	286	-2

**5** **RATES, JOENARD**  
Philippines  
P122,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
67	71	75	75	288	0

**VILLAMOR AIR BASE GOLF CLUB**  
Pasay City

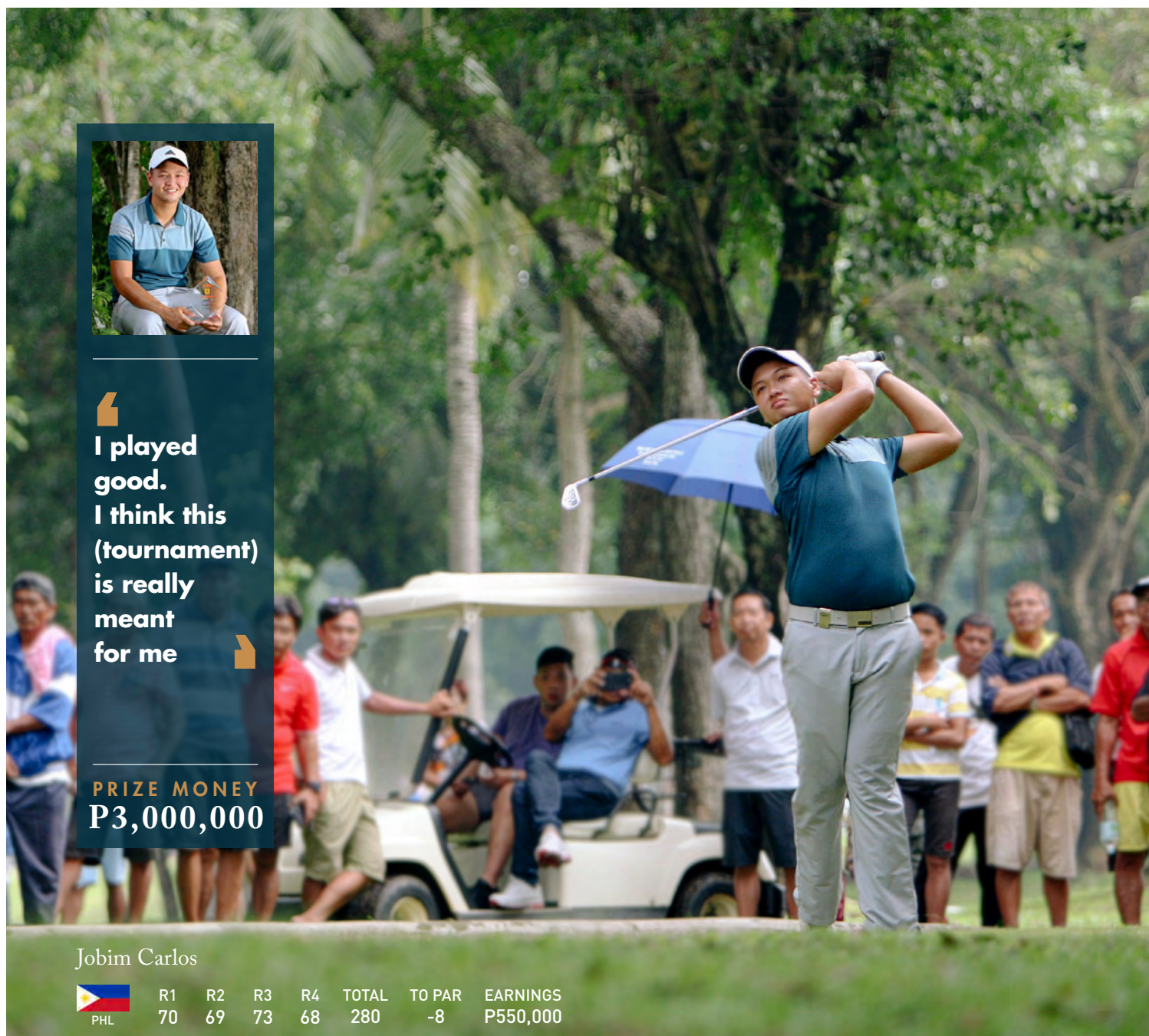
While most golf courses feature unusual terrains, steeps or dog-legs and angled fairways to challenge the players, the Villamor Golf Club has none of those characteristics. But make no mistake about it, the fairly flat layout remains as demanding and exacting with its tight fairways and water hazards that come into play in most holes. Besides the playability, another benefit is that the Villamor golf course is very accessible and is located in the heart of the city, minutes away from Manila's Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3.



NO WILD FINISH AS CARLOS GOES ON

# CRUISE CONTROL

APO GOLF INVITATIONAL • JUNE 20-23, 2018



“I played good. I think this (tournament) is really meant for me”

PRIZE MONEY  
P3,000,000

Jobim Carlos

	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	70	69	73	68	280	-8	P550,000

Solid iron play keys Jobim Carlos' pull-away at the finish.

## FOUR TIED at the top, five lurked a shot behind and eight stood another stroke or two back.

In what could go down as the most crowded 54-hole leaderboard in years, all braced for a wild, wooly finish in the ICTSI Apo Golf Invitational.

Except, perhaps, for one.

A tournament made tough not only by a hazard-laden course but also a field laced with the country's finest and a host of foreign aces did not take the sting out of Jobim Carlos.

Carlos went almost coast-to-coast in the P3 million event, turning what was expected to be a down-to-the-wire finish to a lopsided result with a fiery windup that netted him an imposing four-stroke victory worth P550,000.

“I played good. I think this (tournament) is really meant for me,” said Carlos, who staved off rallies upon rallies of both the stars and unheralded campaigners to score a follow up to his breakthrough win at PGT Asia.

Reprising his triumph at Riviera, Carlos turned in another blistering finish with birdies in three of the last seven holes to shoot a 68 and beat Elmer Salvador and Albin Engino by four.

Pressed on by Salvador after nine holes, Carlos rode a clutch birdie-bogey swing on the par-4 12th then birdied the par-5 No. 13 from four feet to build a three-stroke cushion he preserved with gutsy pars and another birdie on the closing par-5 hole.

What a way to turn what had been a fierce battle into an anti-climactic ending.

He was nowhere near the top in the opener as Korean Park Jun Sung led the early surge of the lesser lights with a 67 in a day that saw the pre-tournament favorites, including the homegrown talents, fumble and stumble in an early downpour at the tight Apo layout.

Until Carlos whipped himself into the form that was reminiscent of his Riviera success, carding a 69 in calm condition in the second round to lead Nilo Salahog by one as the tour's top guns failed to mount their vaunted charge.

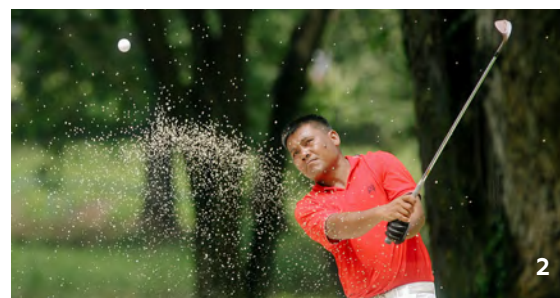
But Carlos lost his momentum and hobbled with a 73 in the pivotal third round, enabling Mars Pucay and Salvador, who fired identical 69s, and Salahog, who matched par 72, to force a four-way tie and set up a kind of a wild finish.

So tight was the title chase that five others stood just a stroke adrift and eight more standing at least two shots farther back that guaranteed a highly charged final round battle. It didn't turn out that way.

Refusing to predict the score he would need to emerge winner for the second time, Carlos did the talking on the course instead, closing out with a 68 as Pucay and the rest of the erstwhile contenders failed to match the former's scorching windup with shaky front-side cards. Salvador actually kept in step with Carlos but stumbled with a costly bogey on No. 12 and Carlos came through with a key birdie from a putter's length to all but wrap up another championship.

Engino, three shots off the leaders after 54 holes, dished out a solid three-under card after No. 16 but ran out of holes to mount a serious challenge. He finished with a 69 and tied Salvador, who matched par 72, at second at 284.

Very much like in his PGT Asia feat, Carlos has seemed to develop his liking to blowing the field away with blistering finishes.



1 Jessie Balasabas struggles with his putting that helped anchor his Masters' breakthrough 2 Obscure Ramil Biser'a's rare crack at the crown ends in a bizarre 77 finish 3 James Ryan Lam isn't asking for some help from above but merely checking the direction of the wind 4 With his consistent impressive showing, many believe it's only a matter of time before Nilo Salahog could blast his way to fame 5 Co-leaders Mars Pucay and Elmer Salvador gear up for a spirited final round skirmish that never came 6 Joenard Rates' caddie seems not too convinced with his player's read of his line of putt.



## FINAL RANKING

### APO GOLF INVITATIONAL

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	KIM, JOO HYUNG	KOR	72	71	73	70	286	-2	P93,750
=	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	73	70	70	73	286	-2	P93,750
=	RATES, JOENARD	PHI	70	71	72	73	286	-2	P93,750
=	PUCAY, MARS	PHI	70	73	69	74	286	-2	P93,750
10	ALIDO, IRA CHRISTIAN	PHI	73	75	66	73	287	-1	P65,000
=	SALAHOG, NILO	PHL	68	72	72	75	287	-1	P65,000

2 **ENGINO, ALBIN**  
Philippines  
P292,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
73	69	73	69	284	-4

2 **SALVADOR, ELMER**  
Philippines  
P292,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	73	69	72	284	-4

4 **JAHNS, KEANU**  
Philippines  
P147,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
75	70	68	72	285	-3

4 **BALASABAS, JERSON**  
Philippines  
P147,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
73	70	70	72	285	-3

### APO GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Davao City, Davao

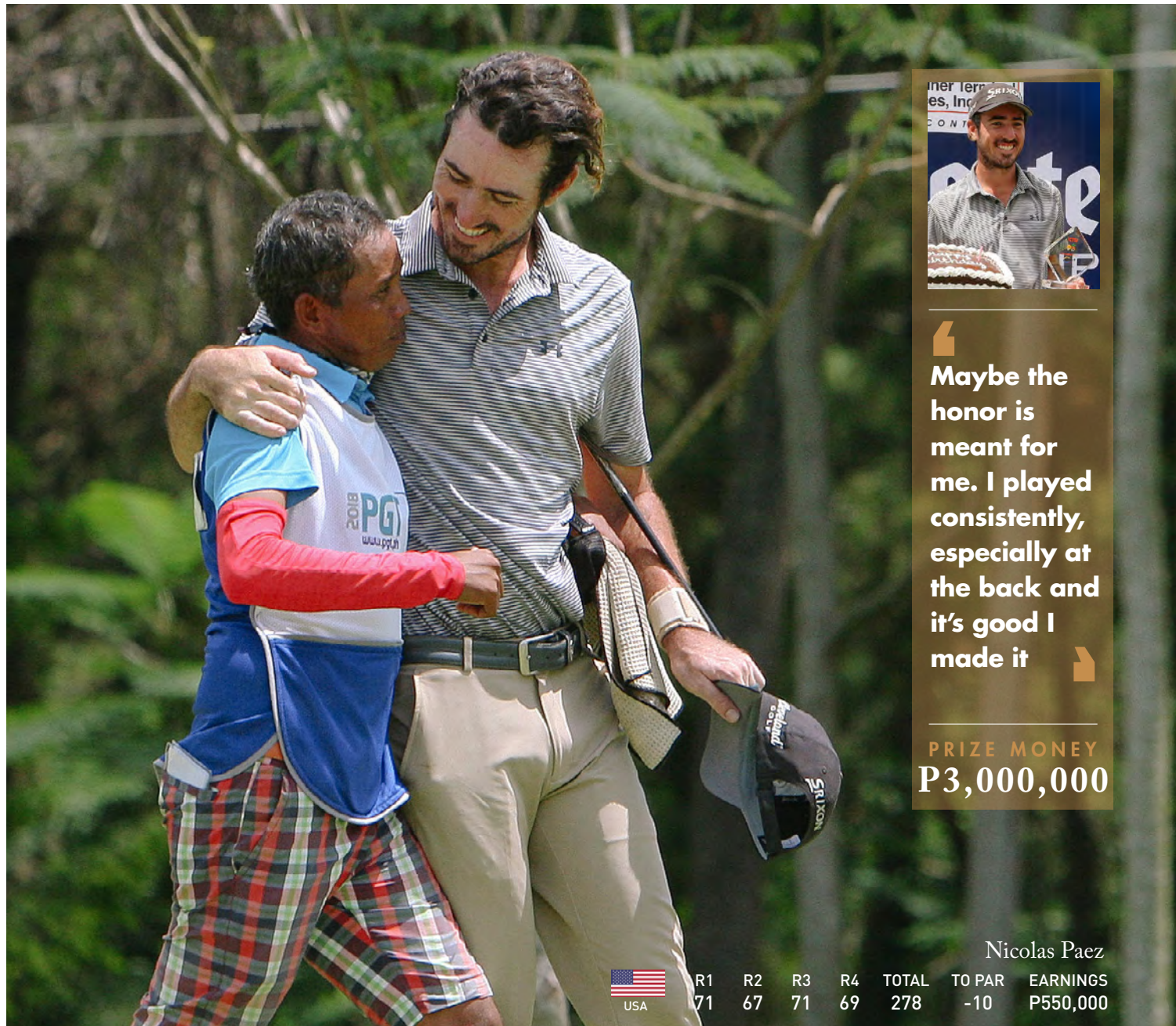
The oldest course in Davao City, the Apo Golf and Country Club offers a different kind of challenge even to the best of the best with its tight fairways, bunkers and water hazards coming into play in most holes, including its signature hole on No. 11 with the large pond placed in unorthodox position. Dubbed the Gentleman's course, Apo also produced some of the country's best players, from Bong Lopez to Cassius Casas to Elmer Salvador, Tony Lascuña and Jhonnell Ababa.



# FITTING PRESENT

PAEZ ENDS LONG SEARCH FOR CROWN ON 29TH B-DAY

DEL MONTE CHAMPIONSHIP • JUNE 27-30, 2018



Maybe the honor is meant for me. I played consistently, especially at the back and it's good I made it

PRIZE MONEY  
P3,000,000

Nicolas Paez

USA	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
	71	67	71	69	278	-10	P550,000

Nicolas Paez couldn't thank his trusted caddy much for helping him nail the elusive win.

## FOR NICOLAS Paez, consistency is key to victory.

Wielding a hot putter from beginning to end, Paez notched a breakthrough win on his birthday at the ICTSI Del Monte Championship at Del Monte Golf Club in Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon.

Focused on his game rather than the favorites, the Venezuelan-American pooled a 71, a tournament-best 67, another 71, and a closing 69 to pocket the P550,000 top prize as he turned 29.

Fact is, Paez was the only player to go under throughout the 72-hole P3 million event.

"I didn't expect to win because Kim (Joo Hyung) and Tony (Lascaña) were good," said Paez, who is married to a Filipina.

But he proved better.

Paez holed out with a six-foot putt for birdie to tally a 10-under-par 278 aggregate and

prevail by two shots over James Ryan Lam and Korean Lee Song.

"Maybe the honor is meant for me," he said. "I played consistently, especially at the back and it's good I made it."

Lascaña wound up joint fourth with American Lexus Keoninh while Kim emerged tied for sixth with Jobim Carlos, Japanese Keisuke Takahashi, and unheralded Reymon Jaraula.

Paez succeeded the legendary Frankie Miñoza, winner in 2013 when the mountain-top layout last hosted a leg of the Philippine Golf Tour.

Now 59, Miñoza settled for a share of 16th at his home course at 286.

The effort pushed Paez to ninth place overall in the 2018 PGT Order of Merit, topped by Carlos, with over P925,000 in earnings.

Previously, the best finish of Paez locally was joint sixth in the 2016 Aboitiz Invitational.

In foreign events, Paez could place no higher than a tie for 14th in the 2017 Global One Championship and Northpoint Championship, both held in Malaysia.

These foreign stints and his constant participation in the PGT have improved Paez's overall game and boosted his confidence.

Though already assured of victory when Lee muffed a par putt on the 18th one flight ahead, Paez still went for that birdie for self-satisfaction.

Reason why it was only when the ball disappeared on the final hole that Paez sighed with relief.

After four years of frustration and heartbreak finishes, including a tie for second place at Eagle Ridge last March and a share of 15th at Apo Invitational, he finally became a champion.

That he got it on his birthday was just a fitting personal gift.



1 Spain's Salvador Paya Vila shows his disgust over his failure to advance 2 Third round co-leaders Lee Song and Tony Lascaña take their final round stumble in stride 3 Failing to break par in the pivotal third round, Jobim Carlos tries to break his putter 4 Guido Van der Valk's search for a second win ends up with errant shots into tight spots 5 Kim Joo Hyung surrenders his title bid with a shaky final round stint 6 Bunker visits stymie James Ryan Lam's title drive 7 Winner on the course, Nicolas Paez is also a champion off it, showing his concern for the environment.

## FINAL RANKING

DEL MONTE CHAMPIONSHIP

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	TAKAHASHI, KEISUKE	JPN	75	68	72	68	283	-5	P93,750
=	JARAULA, REYMON	PHL	73	69	72	69	283	-5	P93,750
=	CARLOS, JOBIM	PHI	71	69	73	70	283	-5	P93,750
=	KIM, JOO HYUNG	KOR	69	71	68	75	283	-5	P93,750
10	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHI	69	76	69	70	284	-4	P62,666
=	BAYRON, JAY	PHL	74	69	69	72	284	-4	P62,666
=	BIBAT, MICHAEL	PHL	71	69	71	73	284	-4	P62,666

**2** **LAM, JAMES RYAN**  
Philippines  
P292,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	69	73	69	280	-8

**2** **SONG, LEE**  
Korea  
P292,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	69	72	71	280	-8

**4** **KEONINH, LEXUS**  
USA  
P147,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	72	70	72	282	-6

**4** **LASCAÑA, TONY**  
Philippines  
P147,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	68	69	74	282	-6



3



**DEL MONTE GOLF CLUB**  
Cawayanon, Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon

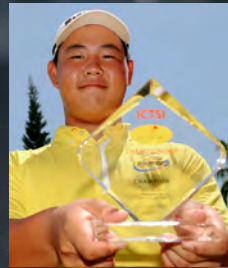
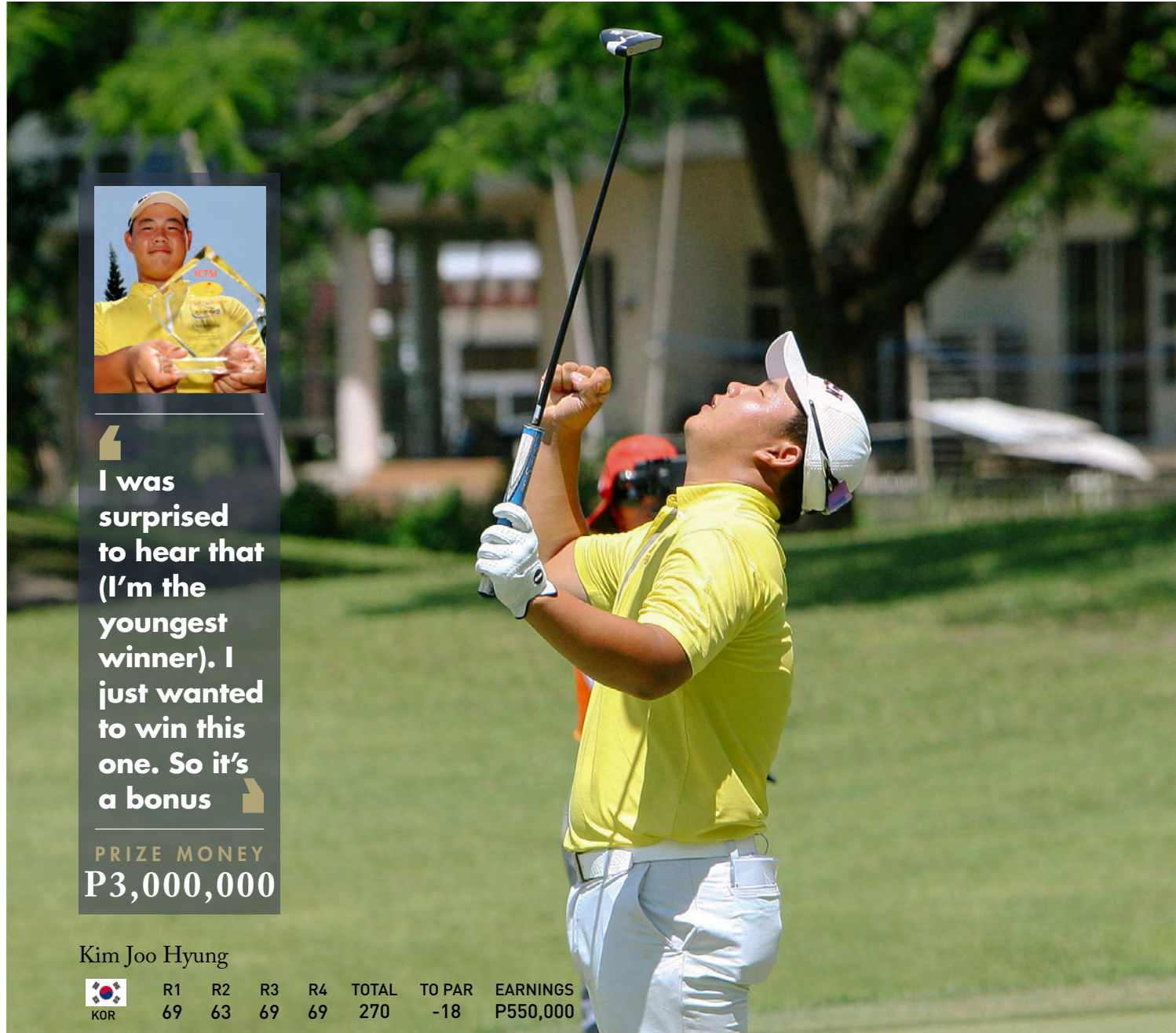
Built in 1928 at the vast Del Monte Plantation, the Del Monte Golf Club is an all-weather course that is perfect to play at any time of the year. Players can view its magnificent landscape, which features man-made lakes, pine trees and greens plus menacing sand traps, particularly on Nos. 7 and 16, which make or break one's title bid.



# FAST LEARNER

**KIM FRUSTRATES CARLOS TO BECOME YOUNGEST PGT WINNER AT 16**

*PUEBLO DE ORO CHAMPIONSHIP • JULY 4-7, 2018*



I was surprised to hear that (I'm the youngest winner). I just wanted to win this one. So it's a bonus

**PRIZE MONEY**  
**P3,000,000**

Kim Joo Hyung

	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
KOR	69	63	69	69	270	-18	P550,000

Sixteen-year-old Kim Joo Hyung needs just three tournaments in the pro ranks to achieve a dream victory.



**1** The 'other' Kim (Sung Wook) savors his best finish of joint fourth **2** Tony Lascaña's gesture says it all as far as his title chances are concerned **3** With two over par rounds, Justin Quiban appears to be asking for help from above to boost a faltering bid **4** Poor putting keeps Korean Lee Song off-pitch in the pivotal third round **5** Kris Etter gears up for a final round charge that went pfft with a 79 **6** Kim seems to have taken Jobim Carlos' command to heart as he went on to emerge on top of the heap as Jessie Balasabas looks on.

### THE KOREAN invasion of the Philippine Golf Circuit has begun.

And leading the charge is emerging star Kim Joo Hyung.

Only 16 years old, Kim topped the 2018 ICTSI Pueblo de Oro Championship at Pueblo de Oro Golf and Country Club in Cagayan de Oro.

Achieving the milestone in only his third pro tournament, Kim surpassed the feat of Filipino ace Miguel Tabuena, who was 17 when he won the 2012 ICTSI Splendido Classic.

Skipping the first two legs to further hone his skills and polish his game in Thailand, Kim made his presence felt right in his maiden appearance in the 2018 Apo Golf Invitational in Davao, the kickoff leg of the Mindanao swing of the local circuit.

Kim shared sixth place with three others and proved that it was no fluke when he landed at the same spot in the ICTSI Del Monte Championship in Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon.

He was actually sharing the lead with Tony Lascaña going to the final round until a mid-round miscue netted him a two-shot penalty that led to the meltdown.

Tipped as one of the contenders at Pueblo de Oro, Kim seized the lead at the halfway mark with a 69-63 then closed out with back-to-back three-under cards for an 18-under 270 and bested Jobim Carlos by one shot for the crown worth P550,000.

Though elated with what he had done in such a short time, Kim, who also had a stellar career as an amateur playing out of Riviera then Manila Southwoods, hinted at similar performances the rest of the PGT season.

"I was surprised to hear that (I'm the youngest PGT winner). I just wanted to win this one (Pueblo de Oro), so it's a bonus," said Kim, the 2018 Philippine Amateur champion and WExpress RVF Cup titlist.

"For me, right now it's just a learning process. I'm still trying to learn," said Kim, who wound up joint second with Australian Tim Stewart in the PGT Qualifying School topped by fellow Korean Lee Song at Splendido.

Other Koreans who did well in the circuit were Sung Wook Kim and Jun Hyook Park. Micah

Shin, of course, is a Korean-American based in Davao.

Showing consistency, Kim placed fifth in the Negros Occidental Classic and second in the Club Filipino de Cebu Invitational to land third in the OOM behind runaway topnotcher Carlos and Jhonnell Ababa.

Fact is, Carlos acknowledged that Kim has vastly improved with his shotmaking since their rivalry in the amateur ranks.

Kim earned a total of P1,361,500 in his rookie season – not bad for a kid who's competing against experienced pros, many of whom are old enough to be his father.

## FINAL RANKING

### PUEBLO DE ORO CHAMPIONSHIP

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
=	BALASABAS, JERSON	PHL	68	70	68	71	277	-11	P136,666
7	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHL	70	68	72	68	278	-10	P92,500
=	JARAUOLA, REYMON	PHL	72	69	68	69	278	-10	P92,500
9	TAKAHASHI, KEISUKE	JPN	72	69	70	68	279	-9	P71,500
=	ABAÑO, JOHVANIE	PHL	67	70	71	71	279	-9	P71,500

**2** **CARLOS, JOBIM**  
Philippines  
P370,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
64	71	67	69	271	-17

**3** **SONG, LEE**  
Korea  
P215,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
66	68	73	69	276	-12

**4** **KIM, SUNG WOOK**  
Korea  
P136,666

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	71	69	68	277	-11

**4** **LASCAÑA, TONY**  
Philippines  
P136,666

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
67	72	69	69	277	-11

**PUEBLO DE ORO GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
*Masterson Ave., Cagayan de Oro*

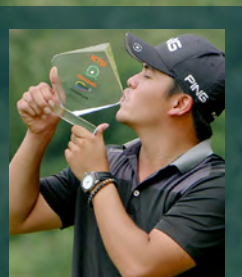
Situated in Cagayan de Oro, the Pueblo de Oro Golf and Country Club features wide winding fairways that fan out from the clubhouse. The par-72 layout is divided by a large bisecting deep ravine with players advised to watch out for the strategically-placed yawning bunkers with its grasses adding to the variety of challenges.



# ONE AT A TIME

QUIBAN AIN'T IN A HURRY TO MAKE IT REAL BIG

BACOLOD GOLF CHALLENGE • JUNE 27-30, 2018



By figuring in the money derby majority of the circuit, the young Quiban has built his reputation as one of the tour's future stars

PRIZE MONEY  
**P2,500,000**

Justin Quiban

	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	66	64	64	70	264	-16	P450,000

With his talent and skills, Justin Quiban should be getting used to such post-game dousing from both his peers and supporters.

**JUSTIN QUIBAN** is a young man in no hurry.

For now, the 22-year-old is content on winning one leg for each Philippine Golf Tour season.

With his innate talent and desire to do better, more victories are bound to come, according to his peers.

A three-year pro, Quiban has notched two wins thus far.

The first came in the 2017 Central Azucarera de Tarlac Open, a leg of the Philippine Golf Tour Asia, and the second in the 2018 ICTSI Bacolod Golf Challenge at the Bacolod Golf and Country Club.

Already impressive in posting a three-stroke breakthrough triumph over Jonard Rates at Luisita, Quiban was even more imposing with a five-shot romp over Jay Bayron at the sprawling layout in Hacienda Binitin, Murcia, Negros Occidental.

All Quiban did was pull away from the field with a 66 and back-to-back 64s before cruising to the title and the P450,000 prize with a closing 70.

The 16-under-par effort shoved the former national amateur player to 11th place in the 2018 PGT Order of Merit, a big jump from his 34th ranking the previous year.

It also helped that Quiban played more consistently this year, missing the cut only at Luisita Invitational, ironically at the same course where he made his mark, and sharing sixth place in the ICTSI Iloilo Golf Challenge and joint 13th at the Del Monte Championship. He figured in the money derby the rest of the legs to build up his reputation as one of the local tour's future stars.

Though he ended up without a crown in his rookie year and missed the cut five times in the PGT, he managed to emerge No. 25 in the 2016 OOM race.

In fact, Quiban said he was ready to toil for up to three years to join the champions' circle.

That it took him just one year to reap dividends was already a bonus, according to Quiban, a member of the Philippine team to the 2013 Naypyidaw (Myanmar) Southeast Asian Games and anchor of the Manila Southwoods' squad that dominated the 2014 Fil-Am Invitational Golf Championship in Baguio.

While Quiban has gained a foothold in the PGT, his misery in the other regional tour in 2018 Asian Tour continued, missing the cut in the Pakistan and Bangladesh Opens and Maybank Championship (Malaysia).

For him, however, these failures are part of his chart to success.

With plenty of years to spare, Quiban wants a steady rise, not instant glory, to golfing fame.



1 Nilo Salahog must've celebrated early after a lead-grabbing 65 in the first round 2 Despite four-under par cards, Jay Bayron still finds himself too far behind to pose a threat 3 Michael Bibat isn't juggling something to prop up a sagging campaign 4 This young ball boy could be pointing to the future the way Tony Lascaña did during his prime 5 Charles Hong appears ready to take on a foe in a different arena 6 If only he had bothered to look sideward, Jobim Carlos could've gotten some putting tips from a rival caddy 7 Six tournaments removed, 2017 Order of Merit winner Clyde Mondilla still keeps figuring out the victory jigsaw.

## FINAL RANKING

### BACOLOD GOLF CHALLENGE

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	VAN DER VALK, GUIDO	NED	69	68	67	70	274	-6	P89,500
=	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	68	67	69	70	274	-6	P89,500
8	BIBAT, MICHAEL	PHI	69	71	67	68	275	-5	P65,000
=	SINFUEGO, RICHARD	PHI	71	68	66	70	275	-4	P65,000
10	ECHAVEZ, PAUL	PHI	67	71	69	69	276	-4	P56,000

**2** **BAYRON, JAY**  
Philippines  
P320,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
67	67	67	68	269	-11

**3** **CARLOS, JOBIM**  
Philippines  
P180,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	64	70	66	270	-10

**4** **ABAÑO, JOHVANIE**  
Philippines  
P125,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
67	67	70	68	272	-8

**4** **MONDILLA, CLYDE**  
Philippines  
P125,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
67	69	67	69	272	-8



### BACOLOD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB Murcia, Bacolod City

Designed by local golfing legend Celestino Tugot, the short but challenging Bacolod Golf and Country Club features rolling terrains and tight fairways that keep the players guessing as to what's in store in the next turn. Players have been known to describe the brute force of the wind as they try to tackle it off the tee while steering their shots not too far off the narrow greens for good cracks at approach shots.



# BLAST FROM THE PAST

PAGUNSAN OUTWITS CARLOS IN DUEL OF THE BEST OF THE OLD AND NEW

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL CLASSIC • AUGUST 15-18, 2018



It was an inspiring win and it went according to plan

PRIZE MONEY  
P3,500,000

Juvic Pagunsan

	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	69	70	65	67	271	-9	P650,000

A winner many times over, Juvic Pagunsan still relishes his Negros win like it was his first, celebrating his triumph with daughter LJ and son PJ.

## LIKE A recurring nightmare that haunts the Philippine golfing scene time and again.

That is what Juvic Pagunsan has been likened to after he occasionally takes a break from the lucrative Japanese circuit, where he has been campaigning the past few years, to sow terror in a local tournament.

More often than not, he has done little to disprove that belief.

Take the case of the ICTSI Negros Occidental Classic last August when Pagunsan returned to the local tour and promptly lorded it over the Jobim Carlos-led field on his very first tournament after a 20-month absence.

"It was an inspiring win," said Pagunsan.

It was actually more than that as Pagunsan fashioned out the victory at the Negros Occidental Golf and Country Club in Bacolod, close to his birthplace in Murcia and the very same place where he honed his game and has very fond memories of.

The P3.5 million event became just the latest addition to that ever-growing list.

It hardly mattered that Pagunsan blew the chance to win it outright in regulation and that he got dragged into two holes of sudden death by Carlos. Maybe that even made his first Philippine Golf Tour title since the 2016 Aboitiz Invitational even sweeter.

Kim Joo Hyung actually was also in the thick of things, joining Pagunsan at second after 54 holes. But the Korean, who became the youngest PGT winner at 16 in Pueblo de Oro in July, succumbed to pressure and dropped out of the fight early.

But what really mattered most for Pagunsan was that he gained renewed confidence in his game after being sidelined by an ACL injury that has hampered his campaign in Japan.

That came to the fore as the tournament wore on and highlighted most with his ploy on the second extra hole that ultimately sealed the deal.

Refusing to be rattled even when Carlos outdrove him by some 10 yards off the tee, Pagunsan hit a solid wedge shot from 60 yards to within five feet of the cup.

After seeing Carlos muff his birdie putt from nine feet, Pagunsan then shrugged off the pressure by sinking his own putt worth the P650,000 winner's purse.

"That was my plan and because I made a great approach from 60 yards, it put more pressure on Jobim," offered the former Asian Tour Order of Merit winner.

Carlos actually had his own strategy, but just couldn't keep up with his more experienced rival.

"I went on an aggressive stance (off the tee) because that's how Juvic plays," related the 25-year-old rising star.

"I have to match his. But I hit a rather bad stroke on the green," added Carlos, who came into the tournament seeking a third title in two months following his triumphs at Riviera and Apo.

But he maintained he learned some valuable lessons from watching the man who dominated the Tour in its early stages upclose.

"Juvic hits consistent short game shots and that's, I think, what I should do," Carlos said.

Lessons learned from one of the masters of the game.



1 Zanieboy Gialon loses sight of the crown after seizing control halfway through, his third round 73 dropping him to fourth 2 Jhonnel Ababa blinks and misses a couple of putts in the stretch 3 The smooth-swinging Pagunsan flaunts the form the wins big-time championships 4 Like Carlos, young Korean Kim Joo Hyung learns valuable lessons in his final round skirmish with the seasoned Pagunsan 5 Carlos could only look back at his flubbed putt that could've extended his duel with his fancied playoff rival 6 After a sparkling 67 in the first round, Justin Quiban fails to shine again, closing out with a run of over-par cards 7 Michael Bibat, Joenard Rates and Jessie Balasabas take time out to celebrate with the No. 1 player 8 Tough shots from tough lies continue to derail multi-titled Tony Lascaña's chase for the elusive crown in the season.

## FINAL RANKING

### NEGROS OCCIDENTAL CLASSIC

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	FERNANDO, ANTHONY	PHL	70	69	72	67	278	-2	P109,500
=	VILAIRATANA, PETE	USA	69	70	69	70	278	-2	P109,500
=	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHI	67	72	69	70	278	-2	P109,500
=	VILLANUEVA, DINO	PHI	72	67	68	71	278	-2	P109,500
10	SALAHOG, NILO	PHI	72	68	71	69	280	0	P75,250
=	BISERA, RAMIL	PHL	69	70	71	70	280	0	P75,250

**2 CARLOS, JOBIM**  
Philippines  
P430,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	67	68	68	271	-9

**3 ABABA, JHONNEL**  
Philippines  
P240,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	71	66	67	273	-7

**4 GIALON, ZANIEBOY**  
Philippines  
P195,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
67	65	73	70	275	-5

**5 KIM, JOO HYUNG**  
Korea  
P155,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	65	68	73	277	-3

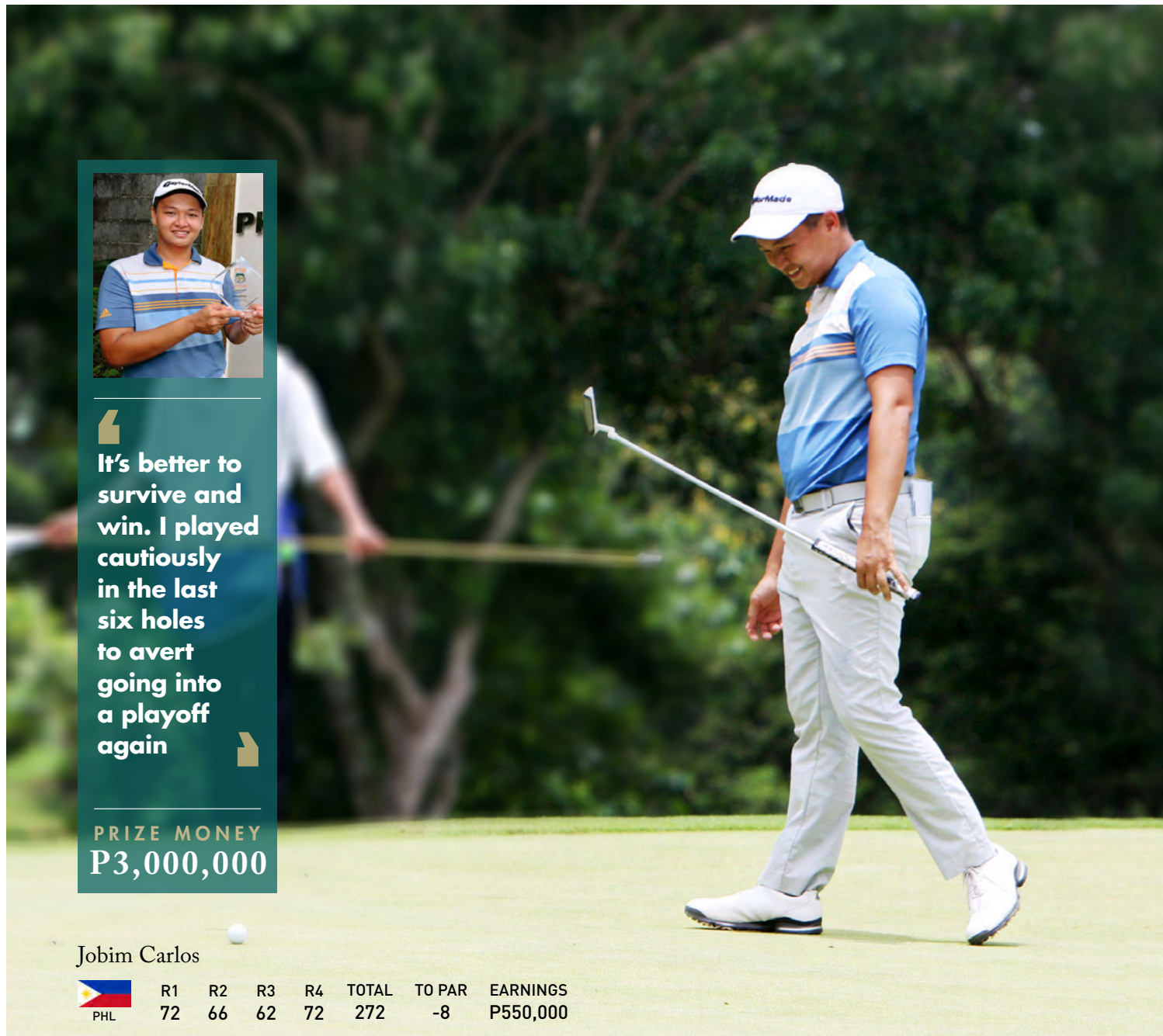
**NEGROS OCCIDENTAL GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
*Bacolod City, Negros Occidental*

Formerly the Marapara Golf and Country Club, the tree-lined Negros Occidental Golf and Country Club offers a high level of difficulty with its meandering fairways and water hazards although its main challenge is the wind that could blow one's bid at any given day – where players are forced to go one club over even when tackling short holes.



# TOUGHENED UP BY A PLAYOFF SETBACK, CARLOS IS BACK ON TOP

ILOILO GOLF CHALLENGE • AUGUST 22-25, 2018



It's better to survive and win. I played cautiously in the last six holes to avert going into a playoff again

PRIZE MONEY  
P3,000,000

Jobim Carlos

PHL	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	72	66	62	72	272	-8	P550,000

This is one birdie miss that Jobim Carlos wouldn't mind taking – anytime



1 Rene Menor couldn't have tapped a more dogged bag-toter in his title bid 2 Dutch Guido Van der Valk fails to lean on his long putter when he needed it most 3 Anthony Fernando breaks into a smile after barely making it past the cutoff line 4 Just three shots behind Jobim Carlos after 54 holes, Jhonnel Ababa wobbles with errant shots and winds up with a three-over 73 5 Robert Pactolerin would perhaps need more than warm-ups to fuel a title drive 6 Joenard Rates blows his title bid with a closing two-over 72 7 Trying to overhaul a six-stroke deficit, Aussie Tim Stewart finds himself in a tight fix.

### ONE'S FORTUNE could change in the blink of an eye on a golf course, especially in a hazard-laden one.

The reasons may vary: wrong club selection, a sudden change in wind direction, a balky putter, even the pressure exerted by the other players or the mindset of a golfer.

One or all of those things could spell victory or defeat.

Good thing Jobim Carlos was able to put it all together when it mattered in an up-and-down stint in the ICTSI Iloilo Golf Challenge at the short but tricky Iloilo Golf and Country Club.

An invaluable lesson just recently learned, also enabled Carlos to emerge victorious from Southeast Asia's oldest golf course, the third time in the last two-and-a-half months he wore a wide smile after similar wins in the Philippine Golf Tour Asia Riviera leg and Apo stop of the PGT Mindanao swing, both in June.

But what he just had gone through was nothing short of an ordeal, most of all in the final round where he almost blew an overnight three-stroke lead over Jhonnel Ababa.

"It's better to survive and win," quipped Carlos afterwards, knowing fully well that the P550,000 winner's purse was worth every cent of it.

Perhaps, it was a case of complacency or – as worse – over-thinking.

"I played cautiously in the last six holes to avert going into playoff again," said Carlos, referring to the sudden-death duel he had with the seasoned Jovic Pagunsan in Bacolod the previous week when he ultimately lost after two extra holes.

The toughening up Carlos gained from that experience surely helped him buck the threat of Australian Tim Stewart and Dutchman Guido Van der Valk as he notched a two-shot win despite a closing two-over 72.

Midway through the final round, Carlos lost his touch that served him so well the previous day, enabling Stewart and Van der Valk, playing four

flights ahead, to pull within one.

Then the same mistakes Carlos had made struck the challengers as Van der Valk bogeyed Nos. 12 and 13 to bow out while Stewart flubbed a six-foot par putt on the 17th to quash his chances of forcing a playoff.

For his part, Carlos calmly parred the last two holes for a winning 272 total.

But it was not the kind of scrambling finish expected of Carlos since he was just coming off two brilliant rounds that offset his 72 on opening day, including a record 62 in the third round.

"The record was a bonus. I had a wonderful start in the tougher nine so I made sure to maintain the momentum," said Carlos.

## FINAL RANKING

### ILOILO GOLF CHALLENGE

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	JARAULA, REYMON	PHL	77	67	66	66	276	-4	P93,750
=	QUIBAN, JUSTIN	PHL	70	67	71	68	276	-4	P93,750
=	RATES, JOENARD	PHL	73	68	63	72	276	-4	P93,750
=	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	67	68	68	73	276	-4	P93,750
10	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	68	70	70	70	278	-2	P68,000

2 **STEWART, TIM**  
Australia  
P370,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
66	69	71	68	274	-6

3 **KEONINH, LEXUS**  
USA  
P170,000

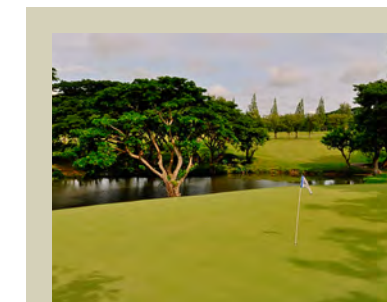
R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	69	69	67	275	-5

3 **MENOR, RENE**  
Philippines  
P170,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	68	67	69	275	-5

3 **VAN DER VALK, GUIDO**  
Netherlands  
P170,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
67	66	73	69	275	-5



### ILOILO GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB Santa Barbara, Iloilo

The oldest golf course in the country, the Iloilo Golf and Country Club, formerly the Santa Barbara Golf Course, has an abundance of trees, tall hills, rolling terrains and water hazards that are scattered through the fairways to create a difficult playing field. The toughest hole is No. 9 with water hazards and trees blocking the clear sight of the tee to the green.



# STROKE OF LUCK

ABABA CASHES IN ON GOOD FORTUNE TO RISE IN DANA

CLUB FILIPINO DE CEBU INVITATIONAL • AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 1, 2018



I was already prepared to go into a playoff. But my caddie told me to just be safe

PRIZE MONEY  
P3,500,000

Jhonnell Ababa

PHL	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
	69	66	00	70	205	-8	P650,000

Frustration turns into celebration for Jhonnell Ababa, who hacks his wedge to the ground after a miss then hoists the trophy (inset) after sinking a clutch putt on his way to victory.

**JHONNEL ABABA** had almost given up on Lady Luck smiling on him on the Philippine Golf Tour and he couldn't be blamed.

Ababa started off the year with back-to-back wins and has three victories under his belt by mid-July, fanning more great expectations from him.

But by mid-year one thought keeps gnawing at him: All his victories were notched on the PGT Asia.

Not on the PGT, where his third place effort at ICTSI Negros Challenge in mid-August served as his best for the season thus far.

Still, the hope remained that the PGT win would come.

In a four-day period that spilled into September and in a tournament shortened by rain (the third round was cancelled due to heavy rains), Ababa finally got what he wanted from the finicky maiden.

Indeed, it was a combination of some gritty shotmaking on Ababa's part and his challengers suffering one meltdown after another before he could score that long-

awaited victory at the ICTSI Club Filipino de Cebu Invitational inaugural in Danao City.

The breakthrough was replete with changes of fortune, especially on the final round where Ababa came up with a wobbly game but still emerged with the barest of margins over young Korean Kim Joo Hyung.

Ababa was not even sure he would win, more so when he hit a wayward drive on the 18th to seemingly leave the door open for Kim, just one down heading to the hole, to tie and force sudden-death.

"I was already prepared to go into a playoff. But my caddie (Edwin Sanchez) told me to just be safe and try to salvage a bogey at most," said Ababa.

He did try and was amply rewarded. He played out from the 10th fairway, knocked a wedge shot from 110 yards to within 10 feet and drilled in the uphill putt to escape with the par.

Kim wasn't as lucky. He came up short on his approach from 166 yards and flubbed a 12-foot par putt that lessened the pressure just a bit off Ababa.

"I made a great uphill putt and that's it," offered

Ababa with a half-smile.

The ending was set up by equally-gripping scenes earlier in the round, which saw Ababa, up by three heading to the final 18 holes, alternately trail Kim and Australian Damien Jordan by one.

Instead of collapsing, however, the Davao ace showed his unstinting resolve with a birdie-birdie feat from No. 14 that shoved him back to the lead as Jordan reeled back with a bogey on the 14th, eventually finishing third.

Luck being on Ababa's side was not so apparent in the first round, when he made a late bogey that denied him a share of the lead with Jordan.

Then things started coming together for him when he shot a bogey-free 66 in the second round to give him a two-shot lead over Kim, an advantage he padded to three when he opened up the third round with a par while Kim bogeyed.

Before Kim or the rest of the field could really play catch-up, heavy rains suspended the rest of the third round, a development that clearly worked to Ababa's favor.



1 Solid iron play puts James Ryan Lam into the mix in the second round 2 Unable to find Jhonnell Ababa, supporters turn on his caddie Edwin Sanchez to celebrate the former's victory 3 Either he couldn't stand the heat or his run of over-par scores, only Justin Quiban would know 4 Matching Angelo Que's penchant for colorful outfit, Marvin Dumandan however fails to at least come close to the former's brand of game with another missed cut stint 5 Kim Joo Hyung has trained his sights on a second PGT win, only to be foiled by the cancellation of the third round 6 Jerson Balasabas couldn't seem to put together a game that netted him the Phl Masters crown 7 Like Kim, Damien Jordan rues losing the chance to mount a rally with one round removed.

## FINAL RANKING

CLUB FILIPINO DE CEBU INVITATIONAL (ROUND 3 CANCELLED)

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	PHL	72	69	--	70	211	-2	P135,000
7	BALASABAS, JERSON	PHL	69	70	--	73	212	-1	P101,000
=	VILAIRATANA, PETE	USA	70	73	--	69	212	-1	P101,000
=	KEONINH, LEXUS	USA	71	73	--	68	212	-1	P101,000
10	RATES, JOENARD	PHI	71	70	--	72	213	0	P70,125
=	MENOR, RENE	PHL	71	71	--	71	213	0	P70,125
=	SINFUEGO, RICHARD	PHL	73	69	--	71	213	0	P70,125
=	BAYRON, RUFINO	PHL	72	73	--	68	213	0	P70,125

**2** **KIM, JOOHYUNG**  
Korea  
P430,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	68	--	69	206	-7

**3** **JORDAN, DAMIEN**  
Australia  
P240,000

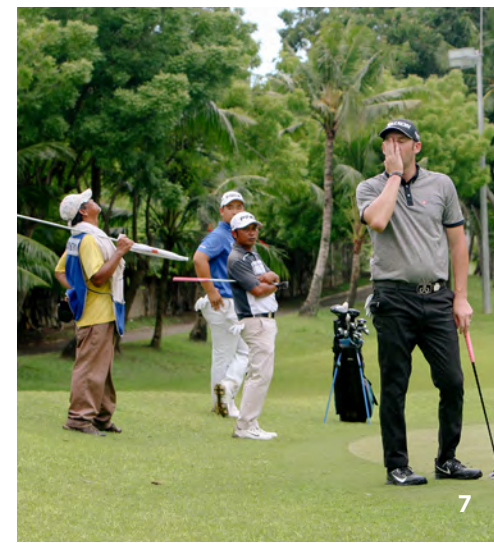
R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	70	--	69	207	-6

**4** **LAM, JAMES RYAN**  
Philippines  
P195,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
73	66	--	69	208	-5

**5** **BIBAT, MICHAEL**  
Philippines  
P155,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	71	--	69	209	-4



**CLUB FILIPINO DE CEBU**  
Danao City, Cebu

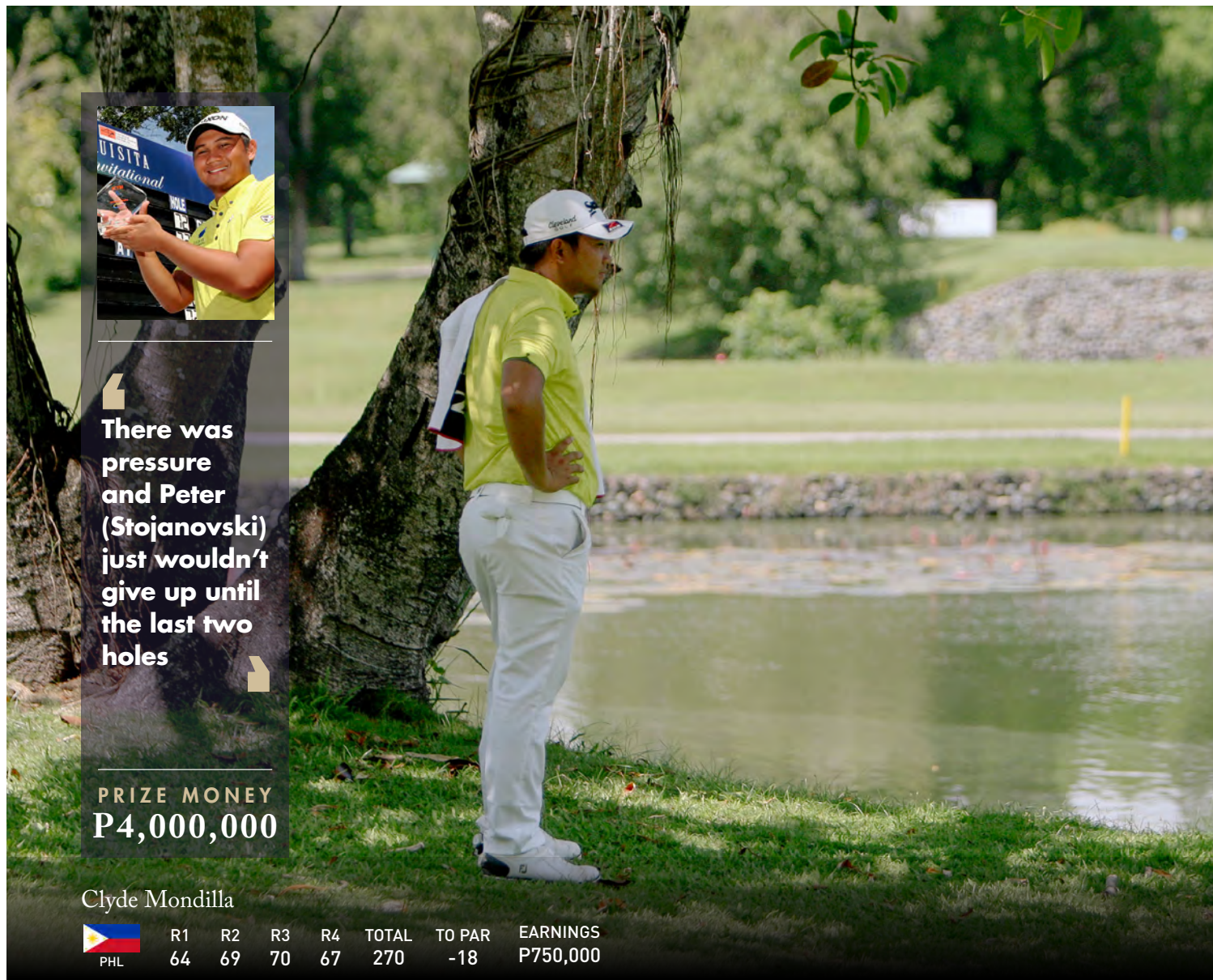
Short by pro standards at 6128 yards, the Club Filipino Inc. de Cebu is long in challenge with its tight fairways, hazards and putting surface voted as the best. No hole is the same at Club Filipino with dog-leg holes (left and right) and uphill and downhill terrains with lots of water adding to the spectacular view of the course.



# SAVING THE BEST FOR LAST

**MONDILLA AVERTS WINLESS SEASON, RULES PGT FINAL STOP**

LUISITA INVITATIONAL • OCTOBER 16-19, 2018



There was pressure and Peter (Stojanovski) just wouldn't give up until the last two holes

PRIZE MONEY  
**P4,000,000**

Clyde Mondilla

	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	64	69	70	67	270	-18	P750,000

Facing a winless season, Clyde Mondilla puts together four brilliant rounds, including a record-setting opening 64, to end a long, long slump.

**EVERYBODY KNOWS Clyde Mondilla could never be shut out in a Philippine Golf Tour circuit season.**

As most agreed, the Del Monte ace has the will and the tools to snap out of whatever funk he may get into and that it was only a question of time.

Mondilla proved all too willing to oblige.

One sweltering day in October and in an unforgiving course such as the Luisita Golf and Country Club in Tarlac, Mondilla did score a breakthrough win for the year through the ICTSI Luisita Invitational.

Displaying the razor-sharp form that propelled him to the 2017 PGT Order of Merit crown, Mondilla almost closed out with the same fiery form he started the P4 million PGT final leg and emerged with a two-stroke victory over Peter Stojanovski of Macedonia.

Mondilla's final round five-under 67 was not as eye-catching as the course record 64 that gave him the opening round lead, but enough to get him off to a good start on his way to checking his season-long slump.

Considering his struggles earlier in the season and the way he managed to outduel an equally-hungry Stojanovski and buck another threat in Jay Bayron make the victory even sweeter for Mondilla.

"There was pressure and Peter just wouldn't give up until the last two holes," beamed Mondilla. "But I was able to play solid and my putting clicked."

Mondilla regaining that touch on his approach shots and on the greens and sustaining it, unlike in the two middle rounds, couldn't have come at a better time as it resulted in a crucial four-birdie binge inside six feet in a five-hole stretch from No. 12 that keyed his stirring fightback from two down with eight holes left.

He went up by one with his last birdie on No. 16 and had that lead stretched to two after Stojanovski came up with a wet bogey on the course's most perilous hole, the No. 17.

The victory was assured as the two matched bogeys on the last hole.

Stojanovski was bidding for his own breakthrough in a three-year local stint, but in the end had to grudgingly admit defeat.

"I played good except in the last two holes. It's quite frustrating to see things fall apart when the game was on the line," said the third-round leader who went two-up on Mondilla with a birdie on No. 11.

As for Bayron, the second round leader also got lost in the wake of Mondilla's fiery windup, bogeying the 17th for a 70. That was good only for fourth as Australian Tim Stewart rallied from five down with a 65 and tied Stojanovski at second.

The victory worth P750,000 was just a bonus for Mondilla, who was more concerned with regaining his form after dealing with injuries that made him skip most of the earlier tournaments after racking up four victories in 2017.

After a fourth-place finish in Bacolod, doubts again crept in when he tumbled in the next three tournaments in Bacolod, Iloilo and Cebu, where he could only land 10th at most.



**1** Mondilla relishes a hard-earned win that came a bit too late **2** Jay Bayron breaks into a smile as he tows Mondilla after two solid rounds but the latter had the last laugh with two superb cards in the end **3** Peter Stojanovski tries a one-hander off the mound during warm-up but fails to hold on to a one-stroke lead after 54 holes **4** A fiery closing 65, which could net titles in other tournaments, proves not enough for Aussie Tim Stewart to reward him his first championship **5** Tony Lascaña looks up to Stewart for putting tips but the tall Aussie falls short of his rally in the final round **6** Jerson Balasabas, Charles Hong and Richard Sinfuego find one common problem in pursuit of glory at the quaint Luisita layout.

## FINAL RANKING

### LUISITA INVITATIONAL

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	PHL	71	67	72	70	280	-8	P142,500
=	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	70	69	69	72	280	-8	P142,500
8	RATES, JOENARD	PHL	72	67	73	69	281	-7	P107,500
=	MORI, ISSEI	JPN	68	70	74	69	281	-7	P107,500
10	ROSALES, GERALD	PHL	70	72	70	70	282	-6	P86,500
=	JARLAULA, REYMON	PHL	69	69	73	71	282	-6	P86,500

**2** **STEWART, TIM**  
Australia  
**P382,500**

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	70	69	65	272	-16

**3** **STOJANOVSKI, PETER**  
Macedonia  
**P382,500**

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
65	69	68	70	272	-16

**4** **BAYRON, JAY**  
Philippines  
**P220,000**

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
65	66	72	70	273	-15

**5** **VILLACENCIO, ARNOLD**  
Philippines  
**P175,000**

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	72	71	67	278	-10

**LUISITA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
Tarlac City, Tarlac

Considered as one of the finest 18-hole, par-72 championship courses in the country, the Luisita Golf & CC has been home to the President's Cup, one of the country's four majors in the 90s. Situated on a 70-hectare area bounded on the east by a sugar central, it is the only golf course designed by the renowned Robert Trent Jones, Sr. in the country. The front nine is built mostly on an open but rolling ground while the backside is shaped by a meandering creek.



# SHIN-ING SHIMMERING

REED-THIN KOREAN-AMERICAN OVERCOMES ODDS TO POST RECORD TCC VICTORY



**DON'T BE** deceived by his looks - the way a slew of veteran campaigners in the other regional tour were misled just a year ago. For behind that frail frame is a fighter, a young warrior with a poise of a veteran, ready to gobble up the opposition at any given time.

Take it from Miguel Tabuena, who knows one when he sees one.

"I knew from the start that if there's one competitor that would actually challenge me, it would be Micah Shin. He's a good player and has the experience because he has won an Asian Tour event last year," said the country's former No. 1 now busy Campaigning in the bigger leagues abroad.

The two-time former Philippine Open titlist said he had played well, in fact a lot better than his 13-over 301 total in toppling former three-time The Country Club Invitational champion Juvic Pagunsan in 2017.

But Shin, 21, took the best dish out by last year's best and proved this time he's better, hitting clutch birdies in the early going of the final round to build a three-shot cushion then watching Tabuena bungle a playoff-clinching birdie putt on the 72nd hole to snare the coveted TCC Invitational crown at the dreaded Tom Weiskoph-designed layout.

The final round of what has long been considered as one of the country's major championships for its prize money and stellar cast - with only the top 30 players of the previous year's Order of Merit ranking participating - lived up to the hype despite Shin's early threat of a breakaway as Tabuena battled back from four down to threaten within one with seven holes to go.

But the lanky Korean-American, who honed his skills in Davao, long regarded as the spawning ground of golf talents in the country, banged in back-to-back birdies from No. 13 then made gutsy pars in the next three to nail the victory on a five-under 283 total.

Not even a final-hole bogey off a pulled approach shot into the greenside bunker could stop Shin from becoming the first non-Filipino and youngest winner of the event put up by ICTSI chairman Ricky Razon in 2003 as Tabuena missed forcing a playoff with a muffed birdie putt from pin-length distance.

The rousing victory, worth P1.5 million, was Shin's third in a flourishing career. He scored a breakthrough in the CAT Open at Luisita in 2016 then banked P9 million in a playoff victory in an Asian Tour event at Southwoods the following year.

"I'm very happy. I thank God for giving me a chance to win this," said Shin, who considered his third round 67 as the turning point then banked on his long game to neutralize Tabuena in the final round.

Shin celebrated his big triumph sans the traditional fist-pump but pointed to the hole after a tap-in bogey following Tabuena's miss.

"Actually, I wasn't putting that well but kept on playing consistently with my driver. That was my plan - to hit my driver steady and keep the ball on the fairway," said Shin.

Tabuena earlier flubbed a birdie bid from close range on No. 14 but moved within two with a birdie on the next. He, however, failed to add at least one in the last three, including that heartbreaker of a miss on the final hole. He finished with a 70 and a 284 and settled for P700,000.

He also rued his shaky putting, particularly his birdie putt on No. 14 that lipped out but tipped his hats off to his reed-thin rival, who survived wicked conditions at the country's toughest course where bogeys became a norm, turning in an under-par round throughout the pressure-packed final 18 holes.

Which makes one wonder what he could become and what could stop him from shining again in 12 months time.



1 Miguel Tabuena's reaction says all about his failed title-retention bid 2 Guido Van der Valk loses grip of the first round lead with wayward shots 3 Despite mediocre 72 output in the first round, Shin and caddy-buddy Owen Hong exude confidence of a strong finish 4 Frankie Miñoza continues to defy Father time but couldn't halt the charge of the young guns 5 Winner thrice over, Angelo Que never gets a shot at a fourth championship with a run of over-par cards 6 Heads up and iron glowing, things still dim for Tony Lascaña throughout the four-day championship 7-10 Errant shots mar Clyde Mondilla's forgettable start of a campaign that should've been bolstered by his clinching the Philippine Golf Tour's Order of Merit crown.

Seems like Micah Shin is having a hard time lifting his huge trophy than humbling a star-studded field



# LEVELLING UP

REGION'S NEWEST TOUR  
HITTING GREAT STRIDES,  
STRIKING PAYDIRT



**PRIOR TO his emergence as 2018 Philippine Golf Tour's No. 1, Jobim Carlos recorded his first pro career win on the PGT Asia, scoring a come-from-behind victory at Riviera Classic. And though the locals ruled four of the other six legs of the 2018-19 season, David Gleeson and Damien Jordan made some impact after breaking into the locals' stranglehold of the region's newest circuit with victories at Luisita and Aboitiz Invitational, respectively.**

The Aussies' twin victories are expected to serve as impetus for the foreign players to continue campaigning on the PGTA and at the same time luring other international bidders to compete in the Phl's version of a regional tour aimed at providing global shotmakers the venue to hone their games in preparation for the other circuits around the world.

"Overall, players have been satisfied and happy with the PGTA. With our prize money, we continue to attract more and more foreign players and this could be

gleaned on the number of players joining the Qualifying School," said Colo Ventosa, general manager of the organizing Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc.

After PGT Asia's successful inaugurals and an exciting, action-packed second season, Ventosa believes the circuit is on target as far as plans for Philippine golf and Filipino players are concerned.

"We're doing our best to give our pros the best tournaments for them to hone their skills and give them the opportunity to compete abroad," she said.

Carlos and Clyde Mondilla best underscored that thrust after the duo earned full playing rights on the Asian Tour after making the grade in the Q-School in Thailand as they joined the likes of Miguel Tabuena, Angelo Que and Juvic Pagunsan on the international golfing stage.

"When I won the pro-am with DJ Padilla at Splendido and nailed my first tournament win at Riviera, I gained confidence and these were followed by victories at Apo and Iloilo," said Carlos. "I played consistently after my triumphs and I think I reached my peak when I topped the Order of Merit. This is really something and I am indeed proud of it.

"I'm happy with what happened. Playing on the PGT and PGTA helped improve my game. I am now more competitive than ever," added Carlos.

So were the rest of the pack, including Gleeson and Jordan.

Gleeson proved that age doesn't matter in pursuit of golfing glory as the 40-year-old shotmaker from Brisbane became the first foreign player to break the Filipinos' streak of victories on the PGTA with a tough three-hole playoff triumph over Erwin Arcillas in the Luisita Championship.

The big-hitting, sturdy Jordan followed suit at Aboitiz, beating Thai Namchok Tantipokhakul by four and snapping the Filipinos' resurgence after Carlos won at Riviera, Jay Bayron besting a tough field at Southwoods and Jhonnell Ababa scoring his third PGTA triumph at Forest Hills.

The locals, however, reasserted their might and ruled the next two stops at the CAT Open courtesy of first-time winner James Ryan Lam and at Summit Point on diminutive Joenard Rates. But expect the other foreign aces to take the cue from Gleeson and Jordan, who showed and proved that it can be done as PGT Asia heads to the final stages of its second season while looking to get bigger, stronger in the years to come, confident of drawing more and more foreign players and firming up its status as one of the emerging circuits in the region.





# AUSSIE GLEE

LUISITA CHAMPIONSHIP APRIL 17-20, 2018

Brisbane ace outlasts Arcillas on 3rd extra hole



AUS	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
AUS	69	71	65	72	277	-11	\$17,500

**ARCILLAS, ERWIN**  
Philippines  
\$11,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	68	69	71	277	-11

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	68	69	71	277	-11

**RATTANAPHIBOONKIJ, VARANYU**  
Thailand  
\$7,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	69	69	71	278	-10

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	69	69	71	278	-10

**PUTKONEN, TEEMU**  
Finland  
\$5,600

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	68	72	70	280	-8

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	68	72	70	280	-8

**STEWART, TIM**  
Australia  
\$4,050

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
72	69	73	67	281	-7

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
72	69	73	67	281	-7

**LASCUNA, TONY**  
Philippines  
\$4,050

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
72	73	68	68	281	-7

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
72	73	68	68	281	-7

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
7	BECK, DARREN	AUS	72	71	71	68	282	-6	\$2,666.67
-	SUPUPRAMAI, POOSIT	THA	73	70	68	71	282	-6	\$2,666.67
-	POLTHAI, TAWIT	THA	72	72	65	73	282	-6	\$2,666.67
10	TANTIPOKHAKUL, NAMCHOK	THA	74	71	70	68	283	-5	\$1,812.50
-	STOJANOVSKI, PETER	MKD	69	72	70	72	283	-5	\$1,812.50
-	HANSAPIBAN, SORACHUT	THA	70	74	66	73	283	-5	\$1,812.50
-	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	70	71	68	74	283	-5	\$1,812.50

**PRIZE MONEY \$100,000**

**AUSSIE DAVID Gleeson has fun memories of the Philippines, having been a part of the Australian team that ruled the World Amateurs Championship back in 1996 at Manila Southwoods.**



Twenty-two years later, the Queensland-born shotmaker returned to the country and celebrated a career resurgence when he lifted the trophy at the end of the \$100,000 ICTSI Luisita Championship.

Gleeson, 40, beat unheralded local entry Erwin Arcillas on the third playoff hole at Luisita to win the kickoff leg of the Philippine Golf Tour Asia and put an end to a seven-year title drought.

"I just focused on my game, played smart and grabbed every opportunity," said Gleeson, a former Australian amateur champion who hasn't had as much success as a professional.

The Luisita win was, in fact, only the fourth in the career of the journeyman – and only his first since winning the Indian Open back in 2011.

It also didn't come easy.

Gleeson caught fire in the third round, when he shot a seven-under 65 to tie the course record and grab a one-shot lead over Arcillas at 11-under 205. Only a three-putt bogey mishap on No. 17 deprived him of a new

course record.

He got another big break in a final-round showdown between 40-year-olds when Arcillas was penalized two strokes after his caddie rode a cart to retrieve a wedge the Filipino pro had left on the green of hole No. 1.

**'I just focused on my game, played smart and grabbed every opportunity'**

*- Gleeson*

Yet Gleeson had to fight his way back from two shots down in the final four holes to wrest the title away from Arcillas, who, for his part, was looking to end a longer dry spell spanning 13 years.

The audacious Aussie birdied Luisita's difficult 15th hole to get within one shot off the leader then finally regained a share of top spot when Arcillas fumbled with a bogey on the treacherous No. 17.

"It was tough but I

know I can handle it. I'm prepared for a long game," said Gleeson, who closed out with an even-par 72 against Arcillas' 71 to force a playoff.

Gleeson hit perfect drives in each of the first two extra holes, but couldn't cash in as Arcillas recovered from wayward drives to salvage par and extend the battle.

The decisive moment came in the third playoff hole when Gleeson, after another solid drive, knocked a short iron to within 12 feet and drilled in the winning putt.

Arcillas drove into the rough and missed the green from there.

Gleeson was more relieved than anything else as he wrapped up the \$17,500 top purse and, more importantly, tasted the winning feeling again.



**LUISITA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**

*Tarlac City, Tarlac*

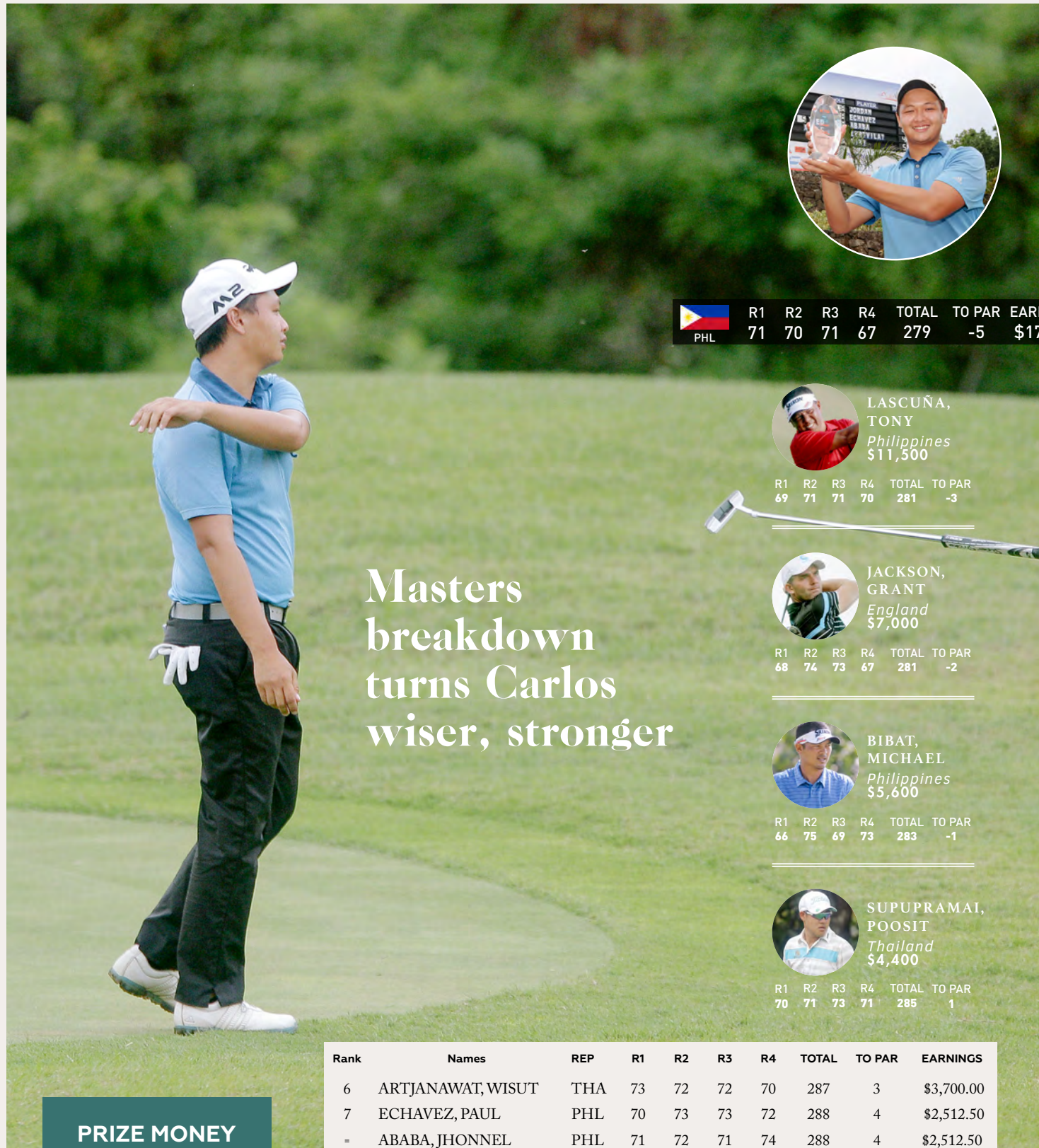
Considered as one of the finest 18-hole, par-72 championship courses in the country, the Luisita Golf and Country Club has been home to the President's Cup, one of the country's four majors in the 90s. Situated on a 70-hectare area bounded on the east by a sugar central, it is the only golf course designed by the renowned Robert Trent Jones, Sr. in the country. The front nine is built mostly on an open but rolling ground while the backside is shaped by meandering creek.

1 A third round 78 drops American John Jackson out of contention. 2 The heat – and errant shots – slow down and ruin Jhonnell Ababa's final round bid. 3 A 71 on the last day snapped a string of 69s and kept Varanyu Rattanaphiboonkij out of the playoff picture 4 Back-to-back closing 68s prove not enough for Tony Lascaña to get into the mix 5 Erwin Arcillas must've celebrated too soon by spreading his wings early.



# STAYING FOCUSED

RIVIERA CLASSIC MAY 30-JUNE 2, 2018



PHL	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	71	70	71	67	279	-5	\$17,500

**LASCUÑA, TONY**  
Philippines  
\$11,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	71	71	70	281	-3

**JACKSON, GRANT**  
England  
\$7,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	74	73	67	281	-2

**BIBAT, MICHAEL**  
Philippines  
\$5,600

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
66	75	69	73	283	-1

**SUPUPRAMAI, POOSIT**  
Thailand  
\$4,400

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	71	73	71	285	1

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	ARTJANAWAT, WISUT	THA	73	72	72	70	287	3	\$3,700.00
7	ECHAVEZ, PAUL	PHL	70	73	73	72	288	4	\$2,512.50
-	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	71	72	71	74	288	4	\$2,512.50
-	LERTVILAI, PASAVEE	THA	70	73	71	74	288	4	\$2,512.50
-	JORDAN, DAMIEN	AUS	71	67	71	79	288	4	\$2,512.50

**PRIZE MONEY \$100,000**

Masters breakdown turns Carlos wiser, stronger

## CONSIDER THIS Jobim Carlos' coming-out party.

Carlos had gone two years in the pro ranks without a victory. Far too long for a former Philippine Amateur champion whose game was honed and toughened by a stint with the University of San Francisco golf team in the US NCAA.

Prior to teeing it up at the Philippine Golf Tour Asia's ICTSI Riviera Classic last May, he had hit paydirt – in team play – at the Delimondo Pro-Am Championship with DJ Padilla and shared the lead after three rounds in the Philippine Masters at Villamor, only to reel back in the final round and slip to join third behind eventual winner Jerson Balasabas and Dutch Guido Van der Valk.

But there's no doubt that the maiden victory at PGT Asia launched his career.

It's easy to understand why he drew so much confidence from that single feat, fashioned out at the daunting Langer course in the middle of two weather delays in the final round – all while trying to overcome a three-shot deficit against Aussie Damien Jordan.

"I made sure to stay focused," said Carlos adding he had learned his lesson from the

Villamor fold-up. "Unlike in the Phl Masters when I opted to instead check on my rivals' games and saw my game break down, I set my mind to score on every hole and get the job done this time."

Trying to win a tournament under the grinding final-round pressure is definitely no picnic, more so for Carlos who lost in a sudden death with Clyde Mondilla at the Manila Masters in Eastridge the first time he put himself in such a situation in 2016.

**'Unlike in the Phl Masters when I opted to check on my rivals' games and saw my game break down, I set my mind to score on every hole and get the job done' - Carlos**

Worse, the heavy rains made it even harder for Carlos and the field, stopping play twice in the final round. He was three shots behind Michael Bibat when play was first stopped after nine holes and he still stood two shots off when play was halted the second time after 11 holes due to threat of lightning.

Oddly, the delays worked to his advantage.

"(The weather delay) really worked (to my advantage) as I was able to relax and regain my bearing and confidence," said Carlos.

With Jordan tumbling out of contention with a final-round 79 and the others in the field too far behind to pose a threat, it was left to Carlos and Tony Lascaña to fight for the title.

Beating a seasoned pro like Lascaña isn't easy, but Carlos made it look so. He birdied three of the last six holes after the second weather delay and assembled an amazing four-under 67 to win with a five-under 279 total.

Lascaña simply couldn't keep up with his younger rival and faded with two bogeys over the same stretch, finished with a 70 and lost by two.

At the end of a tough day, Carlos had cashed a \$17,500 paycheck after his first PGT Asia victory. More importantly, he had gained enough confidence to get it done more consistently. And he did, winning twice more in the PGT stops at Apo and Bacolod.

At the end of the year, he was the Order of Merit champion of the local circuit.



**RIVIERA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB**  
Silang, Cavite

The Riviera Golf Club is an exciting concept unparalleled in the Philippines for its vision to be among Asia's most outstanding golf courses. This golf club is destined to be a golf mecca and at the same time providing the ultimate in comfort and elegance. Found amidst the breathtaking landscape of cool Silang, Cavite, The Riviera Golf Club, Inc. is the ideal course for all ages and skills. The courses promise to be friendly to beginners as well as challenging for the more skilled players. It is also combined with residential amenities and facilities for the whole family fully integrated into a resort lifestyle.

1 Sorry misses from close range hinder Tony Lascaña's title drive. 2 Damien Jordan laughs off his final round collapse. 3 Erwin Arcillas grabs the lead with back-to-back 68s but fails to hang on despite grabbing a coconut tree as he was disqualified for using non-conforming wedges in the pivotal third round. 4 Just one shot off the pace with three 70s, American John Michael O'Toole bombs out with a sky-high closing 80.



# STILL AT IT

**SOUTHWOODS GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP** JUNE 5-8, 2018

## Bayron recalls fierce form to end long spell



	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	62	67	67	66	262	-26	\$17,500

**O'TOOLE, JOHN MICHAEL**  
USA  
\$11,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
63	67	66	67	263	-25

**PUTKONEN, TEEMU**  
Finland  
\$7,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
66	69	70	64	269	-19

**STEWART, TIM**  
Australia  
\$5,600

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	64	70	69	272	-16

**SHIN, MICAH**  
USA  
\$4,400

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	68	65	71	274	-14

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	VAN DER VALK, GUIDO	NL	67	70	72	67	276	-12	\$3,700.00
7	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	69	69	73	66	277	-11	\$3,100.00
8	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	PHL	67	68	75	68	278	-10	\$2,450.00
=	JORDAN, DAMIEN	AUS	70	71	70	67	278	-10	\$2,450.00
10	QUE, ANGELO	PHL	69	68	69	73	279	-9	\$1,812.50
=	CARLOS, JOBIM	PHL	68	71	68	72	279	-9	\$1,812.50
=	KOW, ELKI	INA	70	69	70	70	279	-9	\$1,812.50
=	SUDO, YUTA	JPN	64	75	70	70	279	-9	\$1,812.50

**PRIZE MONEY \$100,000**

IT HAS been a while since Jay Bayron won, both on the local tour and elsewhere.



Time to remind people how good he still is.

That was exactly what the Davao-born hotshot did on a blustery June afternoon when he edged American John Michael O'Toole in a gripping face-off to rule the ICTSI Manila Southwoods Golf Championship in Carmona, Cavite.

"It's nice to win again. I thought my days were over," Bayron said at the end of a rain-drenched week that saw him open with a course-record 10-under-par 62 yet still needed every shot in his arsenal to fend off O'Toole.

Bayron, 39, has long distinguished himself as one of the best golfers of his batch, winning consistently both on the local tour and overseas. But the former PGT Order of Merit champion's game went on a downswing since scoring back-to-back victories at Wack Wack and Riviera in August 2016.

He was more motivated than ever to end that rare drought as Season Two of the Philippine Golf Tour Asia returned to Southwoods' Legends course, where the wide fairways and inviting greens played host to a shootout among the tour's finest.

Bayron led the birdie barrage with a 30 in his first nine holes of the first round, which was left

unfinished no thanks to a rain delay. He returned early in the second day to birdie the 18th, complete a 62 and dislodge O'Toole, who had opened with a 63. Bayron followed that up with a 67 to take the provisional lead as more rains pounded the course in Day Two.

**'It's nice to win again. I thought my days were over'**  
- Bayron

Bayron turned in a flawless 67 in the third round but still couldn't shake off O'Toole, who birdied the final hole to catch the Filipino ace at the top, setting the stage for a final-round shootout.

"I hit really good shots on the last two holes, the crucial ones for the day and those rewarded me a share of the lead," said O'Toole, a 25-year old American who has taken his act to the Asian and Japan tours.

Bayron threw the first punches in the final round, hitting birdies on three of the first four holes to reclaim the solo lead. But the resilient O'Toole just wouldn't go away, taking the battle all the way down to the final hole.

Bayron needed to match O'Toole's birdies on holes 13 and 14, a two-putt par from the fringe on No. 17 and a clutch par save from the fairway bunker at the last to hold off O'Toole, whose one last chance to force a playoff ended when his 10-foot birdie putt on 18 slipped by the hole.

"It's a battle from the first hole and I'm happy that my irons and putting clicked," said Bayron.

The local ace closed out with a 66 and a whopping 26-under 262 total to claim the crown worth \$17,500. But more than the purse, he relished regaining the confidence that he can still win on tour against the emerging young turks.

"With so many young players emerging, I just have to continue training," Bayron said with a smile. "Hindi pa naman tayo laos (We're not yet over the hill)."



**THE MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
Tarlac City, Tarlac

Slightly shorter than the Master's course, the Legend's stands at 7093 yards long. While the challenging Master's course is designed around 'traps' and water hazards, the bunker-laden Legend's layout is dominated by high mounds, making the par-72 layout friendlier to high handicappers but posing a real challenge to those more experienced golfers trying to aim for a low score.

1 In neck-and-neck battle with Jay Bayron throughout, John Michael O'Toole loses grip not only of his club but also his hold of the lead 2 In the hunt after 36 holes, Zanieboy Gialon loses track with wayward drives to the rough 3 Poor form continues to hound 2017 PGT Order of Merit winner Clyde Mondilla 4 Angelo Que's routine stretching fails to heat up the Japan PGA Tour campaigner in his rare stint on the local circuit 5 Micah Shin loses sight of Jay Bayron with a mediocre final round 71 6 Former star Cassius Casas rejoins the tour following a heart operation but not as a player but as spectator as he poses with pals Tonlits Asistio and James Ryan Lam during a break.



# BY HIS LONESOMIE

FOREST HILLS CHAMPIONSHIP JULY 11 - 14, 2018

Ababa knows what it takes to win another PGTA crown



PHL	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
	70	68	67	64	269	-15	\$17,500

**CARLOS, JOBIM**  
Philippines  
\$11,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
66	71	68	67	272	-12

**KIM, JOO HYUNG**  
Korea  
\$6,300

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
65	66	75	68	274	-10

**BURANATANYARAT, ITTHIPAT**  
Thailand  
\$6,300

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
65	72	68	69	274	-10

**LAM, JAMES RYAN**  
Philippines  
\$4,400

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	68	67	70	276	-8

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	ENGINO, ALBIN	PHL	65	72	69	71	277	-7	\$3,400.00
=	SALAH, JOSH	USA	63	73	69	72	277	-7	\$3,400.00
8	JARAULA, REYMON	PHL	70	67	76	68	281	-3	\$2,600.00
9	JAHNS, KEANU	PHL	72	70	67	73	282	-2	\$2,300.00
10	VARAPORNKITTIRAT, NATCHANON	THA	68	69	73	73	283	-1	\$1,975.00
=	O'TOOLE, JOHN MICHAEL	USA	68	69	73	73	283	-1	\$1,975.00

**PRIZE MONEY \$100,000**

**IMPROVING EACH day over a course that demands precision, Jhonnell Ababa capped a sterling year with a victory in the ICTSI Forest Hills Invitational in Antipolo to highlight a season that announced his return to razor-sharp form.**

The Davao native, the first beneficiary of the defunct National Caddies Open program, peeled away from a crowded leaderboard in the final round to triumph and build the momentum for the new season where the promise to dominate is now bigger than ever.

And Ababa did it without the benefit of a coach as he has gone on his own since 2014 and has figured out what it takes to win – and come back after years languishing in near-obscurity.

"I thought that if I can't help myself, no else can," said Ababa before beginning a practice round in Calatagan where he is based. "I've always been under a coach but I never figured out what was wrong."

Not that Ababa feels that he doesn't need one moving forward, but the talented ex-caddy at Apo in Davao has taken upon himself to do the daily grind with the help – and prodding – of his family and friends.

And that move got confirmation in the

PGT-Asia Eagle Ridge leg earlier in the season when he scored a seven-shot victory followed by another a couple of weeks later at Pradera Verde in Lubao, Pampanga.

"That got everything going – I got validation (for myself for not having a coach) and it gave me all the confidence boost that I needed for the rest of the season," he said as he won more than P2 million, easily his most productive year as a pro.

Ababa admitted to feeling so down after being named the PGT's Player of the Year in 2011.

**'I thought I would never win again. I just thank God for giving me this chance'**

- Ababa

"I thought I would never win again," he said after snapping a spell that stretched years without winning. "I just thank God for giving me this chance."

Ababa has indeed come a long way from

that scrawny young man who headed to Manila to try his luck in the caddies' tournament in 2004.

There, with a format that played three different courses, Ababa stood out from among close to 190 players coming from all over the country to become that tournament's first champion.

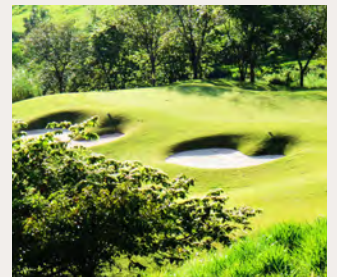
Ababa did his time by leading a select group of participants in that tournament to train for years in Calatagan under Tommy Manotoc and several coaches, played for the national team for years and for Canlubang in the PAL Interclub.

Upon graduation, he immediately made a splash in the pros and won the Player of the Year honors, only to fall into that long slump that made providing for family a tad difficult.

He admitted to being one of those kids running on the fairways of the fabled Apo layout in their underwear, chasing balls that found the lagoons and selling them cheap just to be able to buy food for the day.

It is that past life that has made Ababa determined – more than anyone – to succeed as a pro.

And the reason, perhaps, why he's been trying to figure things out by his lonesome.



**FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
Cogeo, Antipolo City

Set on the hills of sleepy Barangay Inarawan in Cogo, Antipolo, the Forest Hills Golf and Country Club's Nicklaus course meanders through the hills of the Sierra Madre foothills. The shots one will be asked to play are difficult and made yet more complicated by uneven terrain. This isn't an easy golf course but a demanding shotmaker's layout where greens are mature enough to receive the well struck ball and where one would need to club for shots carefully because of the elevation changes and at the same time navigate the multiple ravines.

**1** Thai Itthipat Buranatanyarat takes his setback – and fall – lightly. **2** First round leader Josh Salah of the US falls short of his title bid with a mediocre short game in the final round **3** Despite solid wedge shots, James Ryan Lam still fell short of his title drive **4** A troubled Anthony Fernando tries to punch a bailout shot **5** Young Korean Kim Joo Hyung tries to shoo away the ducks from his line of shot.



# DAMN GOOD

ABOITIZ INVITATIONAL SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2018

Hot putter propels Aussie ace to maiden PGTA victory



AUS	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
AUS	64	71	70	68	273	-15	\$17,500

**TANTIPOKHAKUL, NAMCHOK**  
Thailand  
\$11,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
67	69	71	70	277	-11

**STOJANOVSKI, PETER**  
Macedonia  
\$5,666.67

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	72	67	69	278	-10

**BIBAT, MICHAEL**  
Philippines  
\$5,666.67

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
72	67	69	70	278	-10

**QUE, ANGELO**  
Philippines  
\$5,666.67

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
65	71	71	71	278	-10

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	70	74	68	67	279	-9	\$2,608.33
=	KIM, JOO HYUNG	KOR	68	71	72	68	279	-9	\$2,608.33
=	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	69	73	68	69	279	-9	\$2,608.33
=	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	PHL	65	70	75	69	279	-9	\$2,608.33
=	LAM, JAMES RYAN	PHL	68	71	70	70	279	-9	\$2,608.33
=	BAYRON, JAY	PHL	70	69	70	70	279	-9	\$2,608.33

PRIZE MONEY  
\$100,000

IT WASN'T a case of saving the best for last for Damien Jordan when the Aussie won the biggest pro tournament of his career.



Carding an eagle-aided, bogey-less eight-under-par 64 in the first round of the Aboitiz Invitational of the Philippine Golf Tour Asia circuit last September, the Iraqi war veteran didn't give anyone else in the talented field a chance and ran away with one of the most prestigious tournaments in the land at the Orchard's Golf and Country Club in Cavite.

Though he slowed down with a 71 and a 70 in the middle rounds, Jordan was practically untouched that week as he found the Palmer Course to his liking.

He won with a 15-under 273 total, a number that the best in the Philippines couldn't come close to matching with Thailand's Namchok Tantipokhakul checking in second a distant four strokes adrift with Michael Bibat, Peter Stojanovski of Macedonia and the charismatic Angelo Que tying for third another shot back.

"It's fantastic, it was my first international win so I was pumped up," Jordan told Tweed Daily News' Steve Vivian upon returning Down Under. "I was feeling well leading up to it so it feels good."

Jordan put the issue to rest with four of his five final round birdies coming in a seven-hole stretch from No. 6 before staying out of trouble.

"I just putted superbly," he said. "I felt no pressure as the leader so what I did was just to avoid mistakes (in the final day)."

The Thai salvaged second place with three birdies in the last six holes and finished with

a 227 after a 70 even as Que made a double-bogey on No. 4, fumbled with a bogey on the 15th and had two more bogeys to miss applying the pressure on Jordan.

**'It's fantastic, it was my first international win so I was pumped up'**

- Jordan

It was a rare appearance for Que on the local tour - with the long-hitter now campaigning successfully in Japan - and he didn't disappoint despite some roller-coaster rounds.

"I lost my putting touch majority of the last three rounds," said Que, who closed out with a 71 for a 278. "But I am happy with the way I played."

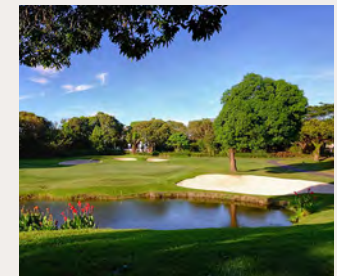
Jordan tried his hand at pro golf after serving two tours in Iraq with the Australian Army just over a decade ago, campaigning in circuits back home before coming to the Philippines to further hone up before trying his luck in more lucrative tours.

He admits to experiencing hard times as a player in the early stages of his pro career, and bared that the \$17,500 he won would go a long way as he pursues his dream of cracking the big-time and joining the more popular Aussies in the biggest stages of the sport.

"It can be really tough," he said. "At the moment, I'm doing everything myself, and I'm looking for a big sponsor, which is really important."

Jordan said that he will continue to play in the Australasian Tour to get enough ranking points to qualify for cracks in the other circuits, with a return to the Philippines to defend the Aboitiz crown.

He has the game to dominate and after surviving two tours of duty in Iraq, there's no doubt that Jordan has the resolve to get to where he wants to get to, and wouldn't it be nice to see him succeed?



**THE ORCHARD GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB**  
Dasmariñas, Cavite

The Orchard is distinguished by two world class championship courses, the Arnold Palmer Course and the Gary Player Course. Both have hosted international and national competitions, (1995 Johnnie Walker Classic, the 1996 World Golf Tour), and professional and amateur tournaments (the Philippine Amateur Matchplay Championships, Philippine Professional Tour events, etc). It actively supports golf course maintenance programs, a national handicapping system and preserving wildlife sanctuaries.

1 After a near-impeccable 65 in the opening round, Angelo Que stays in the hunt despite back-to-back 71s but loses sight of the crown with another one-under card in the final round 2 There was nothing to celebrate for Rey Pagunsan who missed the cut despite drilling in a long putt 3 Peter Stojanovski could only look back at missed chances in the early going of the final round 4 Tony Lasuña hits the flagstick but not the target 5 Korean Lee Sung Kwan loses hold of his iron and completely lost his way with a second round 76 6 Despite four under-par cards, Jay Bayron fails to get a clear shot at another PGTA crown.



# LAM KNOWS

CAT OPEN OCTOBER 23-26, 2018

James fulfills life-long dream with hot start, blistering finish



PHL	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
	70	69	67	68	274	-14	\$17,500

**SALAH, JOSHUA**  
USA  
\$11,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	71	68	70	278	-10

**CARLOS, JOBIM**  
Philippines  
\$5,666.67

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	67	71	73	279	-9

**ALIDO, IRA CHRISTIAN**  
Philippines  
\$5,666.67

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	71	69	68	279	-9

**ABABA, JHONNEL**  
Philippines  
\$5,666.67

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	70	73	68	279	-9

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHL	65	73	69	74	281	-7	\$2,925.00
=	MAENG, SEUNG JAE	USA	71	68	72	70	281	-7	\$2,925.00
=	HONG, CHARLES	PHL	71	71	71	68	281	-7	\$2,925.00
=	QUIBAN, JUSTIN	PHL	73	72	69	67	281	-7	\$2,925.00
10	CAN, TARIK	USA	69	73	70	70	282	-6	\$2,050.00

**PRIZE MONEY \$100,000**

**THERE WAS practically nothing said when James Ryan Lam turned pro nine years ago, when he came out from virtually nowhere to join the country's finest in the local pro circuit.**

At the end of his latest season in the Philippine Golf Tour, over one of the toughest courses this country has, Lam fulfilled what he had set out to do – conquering a crack international field to finally break through and give everyone a glimpse of what could be a more fruitful 2019.

The 30-year-old shotmaker ruled the Central Azucarera de Tarlac (CAT) Open of PGT Asia last October, coming from behind with a courageous closing four-under-par 68 to win by four strokes over American Josh Salah and outclass a formidable local field that included Order of Merit champion Jobim Carlos.

“The plan was to stay out of trouble the whole round and I guessed it paid off,” said Lam as he established himself as one of the players to watch in the coming season after a 14-under 274 total over the bending, tree-lined layout.

Although he did make seven bogeys that week, Lam did stay out of trouble on the day that it mattered, dropping just

one stroke when the pressure was at its highest as he left the field eating his dust with Carlos winding up fifth after a 73.

After a 70 and 69, Lam wasn't even considered as a title threat going into the weekend play.

**‘The plan was to stay out of trouble the whole round and I guessed it paid off’ - Lam**

Until he weaved his magic – and everything came together – when he drained seven birdies in the third round to spice up a 67 and tie Salah for the lead.

“At last I won, this is great and I couldn't ask for more,” he said as Salah, who started the day just two shots behind, couldn't keep pace even as Jhonnel Ababa and Ira Alido checked in with 68s to catch Carlos at third.

Lam birdied two of his first five holes in the final day to get things in motion as

Carlos bogeyed his first three to drift out of the fight. He dispatched Salah when the American bogeyed No. 5 that not even an eagle on the par-5 16th could change how the results were to be written that week.

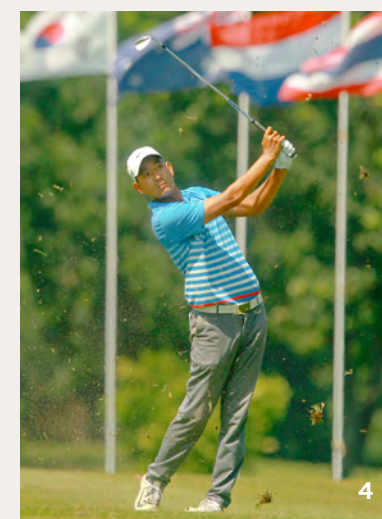
Born in Brunei, Lam is a late bloomer in the sport, picking up a club when he was 15.

He has turned in his hard work to succeed, even housing himself with some ex-caddies late in the last decade in Calatagan under the defunct National Caddies Open program just to get his game to where it is now.

“Behind the glamour of winning in this sport is a lot of hard work,” Lam had said in one interview during the course of his long dry spell.

And he knows, the hard work won't end if he wants to have this feeling again.

The main target remains to be making the jump to the more lucrative, illustrious tours like the Asian Tour at first, Japan Tour second and who, knows, maybe even the PGA Tour in the US when he's over and done with.



**LUISITA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
Tarlac City, Tarlac

Considered as one of the finest 18-hole, par-72 championship courses in the country, the Luisita Golf and Country Club has been home to the President's Cup, one of the country's four majors in the 90s. Situated on a 70-hectare area bounded on the east by a sugar central, it is the only golf course designed by the renowned Robert Trent Jones, Sr. in the country. The front nine is built mostly on an open but rolling ground while the backside is shaped by meandering creek.

**1** Josh Salah blasts into contention late but ran out of holes to overcome a huge lead **2** Jhonnel Ababa fails to squeeze out a stronger finish after a disastrous third round bid **3** Jobim Carlos' wobbly windup stops the eventual year's best from nailing another crown **4** Despite solid wedge shots, American Maeng Seung-Jae still falls short of sneaking into contention with a mediocre 72 in the third round **5** Aussie Tim Stewart takes another unproductive campaign in stride **6** Shaky putting leads to another failed title bid for Michael Bibat.



# RATES UP

**THE SUMMIT POINT WORLD 18 CHALLENGE** OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 3, 2018



No summit too high to scale for pint-sized shotmaker

PRIZE MONEY \$100,000

PHL	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
	72	67	71	66	276	-12	\$17,500

**KASKE, JANNE**  
Finland  
\$11,500

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	66	69	70	276	-12

**STOJANOVSKI, PETER**  
Macedonia  
\$7,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	65	72	69	277	-11

**SALAHOG, NILO**  
Philippines  
\$5,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	69	70	68	278	-10

**SHIN, MICAH LAUREN**  
USA  
\$5,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	69	65	74	278	-10

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	O'TOOLE, JOHN MICHAEL	USA	72	70	68	69	279	-9	\$3,400.00
=	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHL	68	68	70	73	279	-9	\$3,400.00
8	JAHNS, KEANU	PHL	71	71	66	72	280	-8	\$2,600.00
9	SUDO, YUTA	JPN	70	73	68	70	281	-7	\$2,175.00
=	CARLOS, JOBIM	PHL	69	70	70	72	281	-7	\$2,175.00

**IF THERE'S** one thing Joenard Rates can teach the local golf circuit's young guns, it would have to be about the virtues of persistence.

Rates is a living proof of it.

In his 14-year pro career, Rates has gone through more heartaches than jubilation, his miseries compounded by some near-misses. Yet he still plodded on, knowing he would once again experience that sweet smell of success.

It did, one afternoon in early November.

The diminutive shotmaker came out the surprise winner of the Philippine Golf Tour Asia's Summit Point World 18 Challenge in Lipa, Batangas, ending a four-year dry spell and giving him just his second crown in a long pro career.

Sure, some luck came into play, as did some splendid shotmaking he has not consistently displayed in the recent past. A bit of experience playing the Robert Trent Jones Jr.-designed course did, too.

Mostly, it's all about persevering that helped him overcome the odds and upstage the more fancied bets in the stellar cast.

"It's all hard work, resiliency and patience," stressed Rates after the long-awaited follow-up to his breakthrough win at ICTSI Camp John Hay Championship in 2014 when he beat multi-titled Tony Lascaña.

On that particular Saturday all those did come together for Rates, enabling him

to clamber back from six shots down and outduel Finland's Janne Kaske on the second extra hole.

It was a finale that was anti-climactic in a way, outshone by the way Rates came through in the final round with a sizzling start and as strong a finish that netted him a pair of 33s four flights ahead of the championship group.

Kaske hogged some of the limelight too by outdueling third round leader Micah Shin and Elmer Salvador in a pressure-packed championship flight, but missed clinching it outright with a flubbed birdie putt on the par-5 16th that relegated him into a tie with Rates at 276.

**'It's all hard work, resiliency and patience. I just played it cool in the playoff'** - Rates

The two traded birdies on the first playoff hole but the Filipino bet finished off the Finnish on their third trip for the day on the par-4 18th, routinely two-putting for par while Kaske missed the green and flubbed a playoff-extending par putt from 10 feet.

"I just played it cool and tried to ride the pressure in the playoff," said Rates, whose final total was five strokes off Clyde Mondilla's winning score last year, but the \$17,500 winner's purse is sure to more than soothe all those past heartbreaks.

Earlier on in the \$100,000 tournament, it sure looked as if Rates' miseries would go on.

The 7,017-yard course, each hole emulating its renowned counterpart from all over the world, seemed built for big hitters and not the 5-foot-3 Rates.

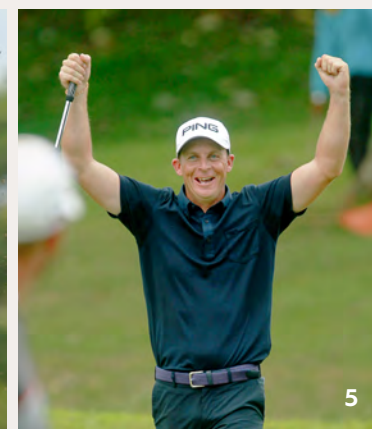
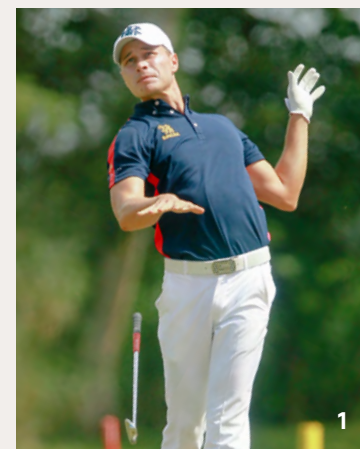
But what he lacked in distance off the tee, Rates more than made up for with precision combined with his big fighting heart.

The accuracy was not immediately displayed in Rates' opening round, which saw him just match par to lie seven strokes down off joint leaders Dino Villanueva, Erwin Arcillas and Thai Sutijet Kooratanapisan.

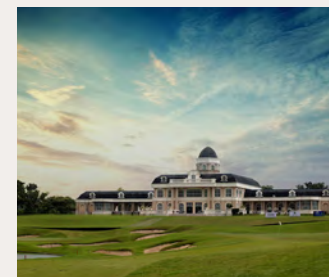
He did, however, get the course partially figured out as he shot a 67 at the halfway point to close in on Villanueva.

Some doubts must have crept in after he barely broke par in the third round, putting him in that six-stroke bind going to the final 18 holes.

But in the end, the values Rates preaches, especially, his grit, prevailed – and so did he.



**1** Janne Kaske loses his grip on his wedge and loses his touch in the playoff **2** Micah Shin blasts his way to third round lead with a 65 **3** Jobim Carlos loses track of the crown with tough bunker shots **4** Solid with 67-66 halfway through, Dino Villanueva blows it all with a third round 77 **5** Aussie Nathan Park raises his arms not in triumph but only after banging in a long birdie putt **6** Clyde Mondilla bombs out after jumping into title contention in the third round.



**SUMMIT POINT GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB**  
Lipa City, Batangas

So unique is the Robert Trent Jones, Jr.-designed Summit Point that it features replicas of 18 of the famous golf holes across the world. With its 7,017 yardage, Summit Point gives emphasis on power although its sloping fairways, big bunkers and deceptive greens will test the field's mental toughness in pursuit of golfing glory.





PRINCESS  
SUPERAL

JOBIM  
CARLOS

# BREAKTHROUGHS



# HARD WORK, CONSISTENCY PROPEL FORMER AMATEUR HOTSHOT TO DREAM TITLE



**JOBIM CARLOS won the Order of Merit title of the Philippine Golf Tour last season.**

No big deal.

He was destined for that, trained at an early age for success on the fairways.

But make no mistake about it, he was the person most surprised when he won the coveted crown.

"Yes, I expected to win – even one tournament – but never in my wildest dreams did I imagine I would win the Order of Merit this early (in my career)," Carlos, in the pro ranks for just the third year, said after raking in more than P3 million from multiple wins on the PGT and PGT-Asia. "It was a surprise for me."

Consistency is the key to winning the OOM, something which Tony Lascaña, the grizzled veteran out of Manila Southwoods, knows a lot about. And consistency was what Carlos worked on the whole of last season.

Aside from the three victories, he was in the

top five in seven tournaments. Not a small feat considering that the players are on the course practically every three weeks and knowing how tough it is to stay sharp for extended periods of time and competing with so much pressure.

And it is something he is working on for the new season.

**'Yes, I expected to win - even one tournament - but never in my wildest dreams did I imagine I would win the Order of Merit this early (in my career)'**

"When your game comes together, when everything clicks, you have to ride on it," Carlos said. "But it doesn't come without you

working on it. Golf is a very tough game and nothing good comes out of this without hard work."

The 26-year-old, a graduate of San Francisco University, knows that expectations for him in 2019 has escalated after he turned back a talented field for the coveted honor.

Sad thing is, defending his title would be a little tough to do, since he will be campaigning intensively on the Asian Tour this season after earning his full card in Qualifying School last December.

"Playing (in the PGT) would depend on the schedule of the Asian Tour," Carlos said. "Of course I would like to play here as often as I can, and I hope that the schedule of the Asian Tour permits me to do so."

Carlos didn't make it a secret that playing on the Asian Tour is the second step that he wants to take in his professional career, with the next to be either in Japan and maybe, a crack the United States PGA roster.

"It's every (pro) golfer's dream," he said.

Carlos stays in tournament shape by playing at least five rounds a week, with this interview done at The Langer layout of The Riviera, a wind-swept layout that has, over the years, proven to be one of the toughest tests in golf in the land.

He does all of his work on the fairways and confesses to staying out of the driving range as much as he can.

"I just don't like it," he said with a wry laugh when asked why he doesn't like to sharpen up in the range. "I do my sharpening on the course. I simulate tournament conditions as much as I can."

Expectations for Carlos to hold his own in the pro ranks has always been great ever since he made the big jump three years ago following a checkered amateur career.

But just like in many fairy tale stories, he struggled after losing in a playoff in one

of his early tournaments. He struggled in form and languished in the bottom of the leaderboards for so long that he was practically written off.

What gave him a boost in confidence was a win in the Pro-Am with DJ Padilla at Splendido, a victory that many brushed aside as a fluke since he didn't do it on his own.

But he would make everyone eat their words and make every head turn as the season went along.

"I couldn't have done it without hard work," he said. "It (OOM) says a lot about my improvement as a player. I think I am more competitive than ever."

That should make 2019 worth watching for this former amateur hotshot.





# FRAIL LADY RISES TO BECOME QUEEN OF FAIRWAYS



**BORN TWO months premature and weighing less than three pounds, Princess Superal's parents never thought she would survive, let alone become an accomplished golfer.**

Wendy, the father, said Princess was delivered via Caesarean operation and spent one and half month inside an incubator.

*"Kailangan talaga i-deliver na siya kasi delikado para sa nanay at bata (She had to be delivered via CS since it's risky for the mother and the child),"* recalled Wendy, a teaching golf professional.

Little did he know that Princess would be the most successful among four siblings playing the sport.

*"Siya ang pinakaseryoso. Noong tinuturuan ko kuya niya (Wolen) at ate (Crystal),*

*siya ang nakikinig ng husto (She was the most persistent, She really wanted to learn),"* said Wendy who taught Princess at the age of six. *"Saling pusa muna siya sa umpisa (She's actually not included at the start)."*

Now 22, Princess rose to become the princess of Philippine golf.

She topped the Order of Merit of the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour last year, earning P1,150,183.33.

The sophomore pro secured the top position following back-to-back victories at Highlands and Riviera.

She edged Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng of Thailand for the coveted honor. Third on the list was another Filipina, Chihiro Ikeda.

The only other Filipina in the Thai-dominated Top 10 was Cyna Rodriguez at fifth.

That Princess reached this far is no surprise.

She has had a glorious amateur career that saw her travel to as many as 16

countries to hone her skills with the support of International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI).

She won gold medals in the Southeast Asian Games in Myanmar and became the first Filipina to win the United States Girls Junior championship in 2014, among her many international victories as an amateur.

All the travel and the tournaments forced Princess to quit high school, a decision she did not regret.

*"Gusto ko po talaga mag-golf (I really wanted to play),"* she said.

Preparing for her third year as a pro, Princess has set her sights on winning her first international title.

To achieve this, she said she has to add more length off the tee, something she has been working on the last two years.

During her rookie year in the Symetra Tour in 2017, Superal had an average distance of 230.49 yards. She played 14 events and earned \$14,458.

Last year, Superal drove it longer – an

average of 243 yards, still not enough if she wants to play against the big girls.

*"In the first three legs of the Japan Qualifying, the courses were manageable but in the final stage, it was tough, forcing me to use woods and hybrids for second shots on a lot of par 4s,"* she recalled.

***"ICTSI has been of big help for the Filipino players. We were able to play competitively and at same time earn"***

She said some of her flightmates would outdrive her by as long as 40 yards.

Her goal is to drive it around 260 yards – a tough one for someone who stands just five-foot-one and weighs 125 pounds.

She works three times a week with conditioning coach Jonathan Nabor who puts her in a diet of cardiovascular exercises and bodyweight workouts.

Princess plays golf either at Manila Southwoods or at the Orchard under long-time coach Bong Lopez who occasionally accompanies her abroad.

Princess' success would not have been possible without the generosity of her backer, ICTSI which bankrolls the country's golf circuits.

*"ICTSI has been of big help for the Filipino players. We were able to play competitively and at the same time earn,"* said Superal.

This year, she's priming up for the Step Up Tour, the farm league of the rich Japan Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Tour, and the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour (LPGT) if schedule permits.

Despite the disappointment of failing to secure a card in the Japan LPGA, Princess is hoping that her stint in the farm circuit will pave the way for her entry in the big league.

Wendy believes Princess can realize her dreams.

*"She's a fighter,"* said her father.



FIND THE RIGHT IRONS FOR YOU!



The #1 Custom ProLine™

**KZG OFFERS THE BEST GOLF CLUBS FOR ALL TYPES OF GOLFERS.**

*Your swing is unique to you, therefore it is critical that your clubs be fit perfectly. Off-the-rack golf clubs will not work well for you.*

*KZG offers an extensive line of irons that allow the professional fitter to help you select the design features that match your swing, skill, size, strength, and frequency of play.*

**FORGED V**



- HAS CONSISTENCY AND WORKABILITY
- FOR LOW TO MID HANDICAP PLAYER

**EVO III**



- CLASSIC LOOK, SOFT FEEL & REPEATABLE CONSISTENCY
- IDEAL FOR COMPETITIVE & AVID PLAYERS

**LCB**



- 20 GRAMS LIGHTER
- BEST FOR JUNIOR, LADY, & SENIOR GOLFERS

**LDI**

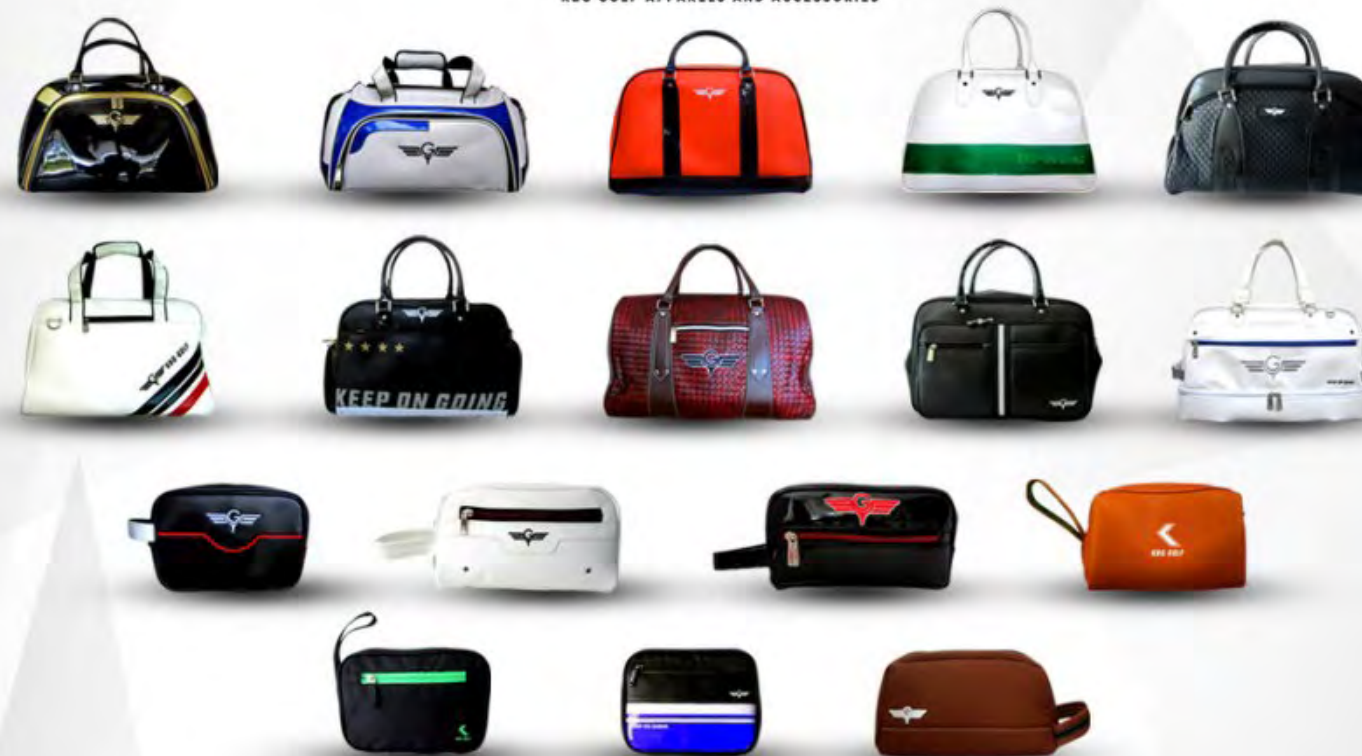


- GREAT REBOUND FOR SUPERIOR DISTANCE
- FOR EVERY LEVEL OF GOLFER

**QUAD**



- MOST FORGIVING IRONS
- WIDE STABLE SOLE WITH TRAILING EDGE RELIEF







YUPAPORN  
KAWINPAKORN

PRINCESS  
SUPERAL

CHIRO IKEDA

PAVARISA  
YOKTUAN

YUKA SASO

PLOYCHOMPOO  
WILAIRUNGRUENG

ONKANOK SOISUWAN

CHIA-YEN WU

SUPAKCHAYA  
PATTARANAKRUEANG

CHING HUANG

**AFTER SIX years of local success, the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour pushed boundaries and went into full swing by co-staging a Taiwan LPGA event in Chinese Taipei, marking the first time that the local circuit has staged a tournament abroad through the Party Golfers Ladies Open in Miaoli County.**

Never mind if the Filipina aces struggled in tough conditions at the National Golf Country Club and failed to break through in the \$100,000 event against a talent-laden international field. The fact that it was successfully held and served the local players well in terms of exposure should be good enough to merit another look at putting up another TLPGA co-sanctioned event in the future.

"LPGT's main goal is to raise the level of play among the local pros and advance the growth of ladies pro golf," said Colo Ventosa, general manager of Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc., organizer of the country's men's and women's pro circuits. "By exposing them abroad, we have provided them the opportunity to compete on a different setup and environment, which we hope will be beneficial to their respective games."

It should be. Princess Superal, the best placed Pinay at joint 16th at Party Golfers, resumed her campaign in Japan and though she failed to hurdle the final qualifier of the LPGA of Japan Tour, she safely made it to the Step Up Tour, which she hopes to use as springboard to her

dream stint in the region's most lucrative ladies circuit.

Back in the local circuit, however, the Thais stamped their class in the absence of 2017 LPGT Order of Merit winner Pauline del Rosario, winning six of the 11 titles staked although Superal did snare the hotly disputed LPGT Order of Merit crown from Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng at the end of the record season.

Yupaporn Kawinpakorn reigned twice while Wilairungrueng, Pavarisa Yoktuan, Supakchaya Pattaranakrueang and Onkanok Soisuwan nailed one victory each as the country's perennial regional rivals dominated with Del Rosario, who won four tournaments in her rookie campaign in 2017, opting to compete

## TAIWAN LPGA CO-SANCTIONED EVENT HIGHLIGHTS LPGT RECORD SEASON

# PUSHING BOUNDARIES

abroad majority of the year as part of her LPGA Qualifying buildup.

Still, the diminutive Superal carried the cudgels for the locals, scoring back-to-back victories at Highlands and Riviera while turning in a number of top five finishes to foil Wilairungrueng, winner at ICTSI Champion Tour at Southwoods, one of the three TLPGA-sanctioned events, for the OOM plum.

Amateur Yuka Saso opened the year with a scintillating win at Ayala Greenfield, besting a slew of top pros, then Kawinpakorn ripped the field at Beverly Place, Chihiro Ikeda topped the

Eagle Ridge tilt, and Yoktuan bagged the Splendido crown. Pattaranakrueang pricked Superal's bubble with a victory at Luisita then Soisuwan, Kawinpakorn and Wilairungrueng made it four-in-row for the Thais by ruling the Mt. Malarayat, Summit Point and Southwoods stops.

The Taiwanese, on the other hand, closed out the circuit with a pair of wins with Ching Huang blasting the field at Midlands and amateur Wu Chia-Yen besting the cream of the LPGT and TLPGA crops with a wire-to-wire victory in the Party Golfers, becoming the youngest winner at 14.

The 2019 LPGT season actually kicked

off with two tournaments at John Hay and Pradera Verde at the end of 2018, guaranteeing another busy schedule for the pack that continues to grow not only in numbers but also in prestige each passing year.

"Our aim is to grow the ladies tour and we need more of our (local) talents to play abroad," said Ventosa. "We want the LPGT to be as big as our PGT and PGT Asia tours."

Truly, a bigger, stronger LPGT season is in the works.



# MAKING A POINT

AYALA GREENFIELD CHALLENGE • JANUARY 3-5, 2018

## Amateur smothers elite pro field



**Yuka Saso (AM)**  
CHAMPION

PHL	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	72	67	70	209	-7	-

Yuka Saso literally soars while clutching the low amateur and the individual championship trophies.

**2** **PLOYCHOMPOO WILAIRUNGRUENG**  
Thailand  
P150,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
72	72	67	211	-5

**3** **PAULINE DEL ROSARIO**  
Philippines  
P95,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
74	70	72	216	0

**4** **CHONLADA CHAYANUN**  
Thailand  
P60,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
75	73	70	218	2

**5** **PUNPAKA PHUNTUMABAMRUNG**  
Thailand  
P52,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
74	72	73	219	3

## PRIZE MONEY P750,000

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	Saraporn CHAMCHOI	THA	77	72	72	221	5	P45,000
7	Chihiro IKEDA	PHL	81	70	72	223	7	P42,500
8	Thanuttra BOONRAKSASAT	THA	72	78	74	224	8	P39,500
9	Pakpring DUANGCHAN	THA	77	77	71	225	9	P32,333
=	Cyna RODRIGUEZ	PHL	80	74	71	225	9	P32,333
=	Aunchisa UTAMA	THA	77	74	74	225	9	P32,333

**I DIDN'T EXPECT TO WIN BECAUSE OF THE QUALITY OF COMPETITION. BUT I'M HAPPY I DID IT**

WHILE HER peers were disputing the national championship she won in emphatic fashion in Cavite, amateur Yuka Saso was waging battle with the cream of the country's pro crop and a number of Thai aces in harsh condition in Laguna.

And true to her promise and potentials, the 16-year-old star rose to the challenge and handled them all – from Dottie Ardina and Pauline del Rosario to Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng and Wannasiri Sirirampant – with a game so ripe for the pro tour to claim the ICTSI Ayala Greenfield Ladies Challenge crown.

That she did it over a field teeming with talents and in windy conditions – and in wire-to-wire mode – spoke well of the caliber of the player who was dropped off the national team roster and barred from defending her national crown, shifting her focus instead to the P750,000 championship, the kickoff leg of the 2018 Ladies Philippine Golf Tour.

Del Rosario, who dominated the 2017 circuit in her rookie campaign with four victories, summed it all up when she said after ending up at distant third: "Yuka was so good."

In short, the talented Fil-Japanese was simply better than anybody in the fold.

She was at her best in the second round where she gunned down a late eagle that spiked a brilliant 67 for a huge five-stroke cushion over del Rosario and Wirairungrueng, whom she shared the first round lead with 72.

"My 67 in the second round spelled the difference. It gave me confidence and I played pressure-free from there," said Saso, who tamed the wind and the undulating surface of the Ayala Greenfield layout with superb shotmaking, iron game and putting.

Not even Wilairungrueng's 67 could rattle Saso, who kept her composure to foil the Thai's early charge and late rally on her way to a two-stroke victory on a closing 70 for a seven-under 209 total.

It was actually Saso's second pro win as she also bested another tough pro field in the LPGT ICTSI Eagle Ridge in May 2016 then captured the individual crown and led the Philippines to the team title in the World Junior Girls Championship in Canada four months later.

She actually came into the event without much expectations though she was among the favorites owing to her awesome form that produced a near-sweep of the country's major amateur titles in 2017, including the national stroke and match play.

"I didn't expect to win because of the quality of competition. But I'm happy I did it," said Saso, who dominated the likes of LPGA and Symetra Tour veterans Ardina and Cyna Rodriguez, Princess Superal, who also campaigned in the Symetra Tour, and LPGT leg winners Chihiro Ikeda and Del Rosario along with Wirairungrueng and fellow Thais Saraporn Chamchoi and former leg winner Sirisampant.

"I was just lucky. It was really fantastic," said Saso.

True, luck does play a big role in one's title drive but the funny thing about good fortune is that it almost, always falls on truly talented, gifted players.



**1** Princess Superal (center) relishes a rare shot during a break with two of the country's revered pros – Cyna Rodriguez (left) and Dottie Ardina **2** Rodriguez must've cracked a funny joke to elicit such laughter from Marvi Monsalve, Superal and Ardina **3** Two-time runner-up Thai Chonlada Chayanun extends her run of winless LPGT campaign with another late charge **4** Thai Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng isn't raising the proverbial white flag but actually fought her way to the finish – to no avail **5** A playful Monsalve shows amateur Chanelle Avaricio competitive golf isn't a serious matter after all **6** Superal fails to live up to pre-tournament hype with a run of over-par rounds in tough conditions **7** Yuka Saso celebrates her eagle feat in the second day that spiked a fiery 67 and anchored her title romp **8** A bus from father and pro tour campaigner Arnold fails to provide some good luck for Gretchen Villacencio, who missed the cut with a pair of 80-over cards **9** Gloomy weather keeps some of the top players out of the course.

**AYALA GREENFIELD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
Calamba City, Laguna

Designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr. in 2005, the Ayala Greenfield Golf and Leisure Club boasts of not just a championship course but also extensive high quality facilities and different activities. Often describe as small, yet thrilling course, the AGGLC features windy fairways, low hillsides, deep ravines and bunkers that can challenge every player of any caliber.



# THAI DELIGHT

BEVERLY PLACE CLASSIC • JANUARY 9-11, 2018

'Mook' pulls off another gem of a win



**Yupaporn Kawinpakorn**

CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
THA	68	68	68	204	-9	P150,000

Taking on and overcoming two of the country's top players is no mean feat for the Thai ace, who bested LPGT and Symetra Tour campaigner Dottie Ardina and many-time LPGT winner Chihiro Ikeda.



1 Shaky putting stymies Dottie Ardina's bid. 2 They're not the modern-day ninjas but bag-toters fighting off the summer-like heat early in the season. 3 Upon checking the wind direction, Kawinpakorn checked on the local aces and clipped them with a superb display of consistency to annex another LPGT victory. 4 Chihiro Ikeda blasts her way to contention in all three days but lost steam in the end to yield to in-form Kawinpakorn. 5 Awesome forms do not necessarily produce good results as Cyna Rodriguez and Princess Superal struggled all week despite their smooth-swinging ways.

**IF CONSISTENCY is the key to winning at the relatively short but tricky Beverly Place Golf Club, Yupaporn Kawinpakorn hardly made any effort to prove it otherwise.**

Three 68s were all it took for the Thai veteran to claim victory in the ICTSI Beverly Place Classic, putting together a game that stood out at the par-71 bunker-laden course.

That it netted a three-stroke victory over Chihiro Ikeda only underscored the Samut Prakan native's consistency. While her rivals scrambled and groped for form to come up with a good, fighting card, Kawinpakorn, nicknamed 'Mook' which means pearl in the Thai language, played steady off the mound to the last putt throughout the 54-hole championship.

She did have her share of woes and miscues at the tricky layout, including a wobbly start in the final round. But the multi-titled internationalist, who won five college tournaments with the University of Kansas Jayhawks and scored her maiden win on the China Tour last June, made sure to come out of each mistake wiser, stronger.

"I knew from the start that I could win again. I trained hard and was confident of my game," said Kawinpakorn, who dished out three days of brilliant shotmaking, iron play and putting to pool a nine-under 204.

The victory came on the heels of her triumph in the South Forbes Invitational which closed out the 2017 Ladies Philippine Golf Tour season.

She actually had a shared view of the top with Ikeda, who took over the cudgels for the more illustrious Dottie Ardina, Princess Superal and Cyna Rodriguez despite an up-and-down round on the flat layout.

But the Thai moved ahead by one after 36 holes with another 68. And though she blew a one-stroke edge with an early bogey in the final round, she fought back from one down by ripping Beverly's backside with a four-under 33, spiked by a three-birdie binge from No. 15, as she dominated the cream of the local crop again the way she did at South Forbes.

Ikeda pounced on Kawinpakorn's early mishap and knocked down a birdie on No. 6 to grab the lead. But the Fil-Japanese lost her putting touch, flubbing a number of birdie chances, including on the last two par-5s. She wound up with a 70 and lost by three with a 207.

Ardina, whose four-under 67 in the second round sparked hopes of a big comeback from the LPGA and Symetra Tour campaigner, fell by three with a bogey on No. 2 and, like Ikeda, failed to close in again with a couple of flubbed birdie putts. She ended up third at 208.

While the locals struggled on Beverly's unpredictable surface on a hot but windy day, Kawinpakorn flashed awesome touch that complemented her superb iron game to produce those decisive birdie putts.

"I played so relaxed and my irons and wedges contributed to my good score," said the 27-year-old Thai who broke into spotlight by winning the 2007 Philippine Ladies Amateur Open crown at The Country Club.

She has remained in local golf's consciousness since.

## PRIZE MONEY P750,000

I PLAYED SO RELAXED AND MY IRONS AND WEDGES CONTRIBUTED TO MY GOOD SCORE

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	Princess Mary SUPERAL	PHL	71	72	71	214	1	P42,500
7	Aunchisa UTAMA	THA	73	70	73	216	3	P39,500
8	Pimpadsorn SANGKAGARO	THA	73	72	73	218	5	P35,000
9	Ananya VITAYAKONKOMOL	THA	74	72	74	220	7	P31,000
=	Alisara WEDCHAKAMA	THA	75	72	73	220	7	P31,000

**2** **CHIHIRO IKEDA**  
Philippines  
P95,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	69	70	207	-6

**3** **DOTTIE ARDINA**  
Philippines  
P60,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	67	70	208	-5

**4** **CYNA RODRIGUEZ**  
Philippines  
P52,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	72	67	209	-4

**5** **TIRANAN YOOPAN**  
Thailand  
P45,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	72	68	211	-2



### BEVERLY PLACE GOLF CLUB Mexico, Pampanga

The Beverly Place Golf Club, designed by golf legend Gary Player, is a flat, short course at 6438 yards yet challenging with its bunkers and man-made lakes, especially if the wind come into play. Water hazards are strategically placed, particularly on Nos. 2, 8 and 15 and a hidden creek on the first hole that will force a player to be more careful in saving precious strokes.



# QUEEN OF SUDDEN DEATHS

EAGLE RIDGE INVITATIONAL • FEBRUARY 7-9, 2018



**Ikeda wobbles, recovers to edge Korean in playoff**

**Chihiro Ikeda**  
CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	69	69	71	209	-7	P150,000

Chihiro Ikeda soaks in victory after emerging on top of the heap again in another duel of nerves.

**2** **LEE JI HYEON (AM)**  
Korea  
P95,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	74	66	209	-7

**3** **HWANG MIN JEONG (AM)**  
Korea  
P60,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	70	72	210	-6

**4** **PRINCESS MARY SUPERAL**  
Philippines  
P52,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	69	73	211	-5

**5** **PAVARISA YOKTUAN**  
Thailand  
P43,750

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	73	72	215	-1

## PRIZE MONEY P750,000

**JUST SO HAPPENS THAT I SEEM TO DO WELL IN SUCH CONDITIONS**

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
=	Wannasiri SIRISAMPANT	THA	77	74	68	219	3	P43,750
7	Cyna RODRIGUEZ	PHL	73	75	72	220	4	P39,500
8	Dottie ARDINA	PHL	72	72	77	221	5	P33,750
=	Tiranan YOOPAN	THA	75	73	73	221	5	P33,750
10	Chonlada CHAYANUN	THA	76	74	72	222	6	P29,500

**SHE HAD been through so many battles – marked by a number of nerve-wracking finishes – to be rattled one bit.**

So despite stepping on the first playoff hole exhausted and dog-tired after stumbling and blowing a huge lead at the end of regulation play, Chihiro Ikeda knew she had the hotly disputed ICTSI Eagle Ridge Ladies Invitational Championship crown in her grasp.

What actually concerned her most was the energy she would need in a pressure-packed playoff duel.

"I was so tired. While Lee was able to take a break (in a flight ahead), I had to proceed to the playoff right after my round," said Ikeda, referring to Lee Ji Hyeon, an amateur who fought back from five down to take the challenger's role when all the other pros succumbed and faded one after the other in a scrambling finish at the Aoki layout of the sprawling Eagle Ridge complex in Gen. Trias, Cavite.

But it took the Fil-Japanese shotmaker not just one or two extra holes to finish off the Korean upstart.

When the going got tough, however, Ikeda got going and the raw Lee succumbed to playoff pressure, muffing a par-putt bid from five feet on the third sudden death hole, enabling Ikeda to claim the win with a routine par on their fourth trip on the par-4 18th.

"It's nice to win again although I really have to toughen up in the playoff after blowing a huge lead in regulation. I was tired but coach Bong (Lopez) told me to just stay focused and keep believing in myself," said Ikeda, whose victory also brought memories of her stirring three-hole playoff escape over Thai Yupaporn Kawinpakorn in a heated battle for the individual gold medal in the Southeast Asian Games in Laos in 2009.

The Eagle Ridge triumph, worth another P150,000, also came three months after she scored a similar sudden death victory over another Thai ace Wannasiri Sirisampant at Forest Hills in Antipolo, making her a virtual master of playoffs.

"Just so happens that I seem to do well in such conditions," said Ikeda. "And a win is a

win and I hope this would further boost my confidence and bolster my game as I shoot for more (victories)."

Lee settled for the low amateur honors.

But just when she thought she had the crown in the bag after storming upfront with birdies on Nos. 11 and 12 in the final round, Ikeda lost her touch, made a late bogey and another Korean amateur and former LPGT leg winner Hwang Min-Jeong got back into the mix with her own birdie binge and Lee kept her bid going with her own birdie run on her way to a 66.

But while Princess Superal bowed out with a 73 and Hwang missed the playoff with a closing bogey for a 72, Lee completed a six-under card to force a sudden death at 209 after Ikeda settled for a 71.

Too bad she faced a rival that thrives in such situations.



**1** Thais Chonlada Chayanun and Chatprapa Sirirakob opt to share a light moment when things seem to get tougher in the second round. **2** With their identical outfits, Apple Fudolin and Gretchen Villacencio could easily pass up as partners in any team play. **3** Due for a big win, Thai Tiranan Yoopan continues to search for the form that would net her the elusive crown. **4** Former leg winner Hwang Min-Jeong knows what it takes to be No. 1 on the tough LPGT. **5** Things heated up a bit too late for Cyna Rodriguez. **6** Dottie Ardina could only look forward to another crack at the LPGT crown after a final round foldup. **7** Visits in the thick Aoki roughs stymie Korean amateur Lee Ji Hyeon's title drive. **8** Princess Superal can't find the right opening to launch her much vaunted charge.



## EAGLE RIDGE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB (AOKI)

Gen. Trias, Cavite

The Aoki side of Eagle Ridge is one-of-a-kind. It offers a unique balance of providing a pleasurable golfing experience while continuing to challenge a player. A complete package, it offers a collection of long and short holes that features incredible variety of rolling terrain and boasts of the best greens on the sprawling Eagle Ridge property.



# ALL FIRED UP

SPLENDIDO CLASSIC • FEBRUARY 14-16, 2018

**3-time Thai LPGA titlist overpowers Phl top gun**



**Pavarisa Yoktuan**  
CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
	69	69	72	210	-6	P150,000

A traditional douse quenches Pavarisa Yoktuan's thirst for a breakthrough LPGT victory.

**IT'S A NICE FEELING TO WIN HERE FOR THE FIRST TIME**

**PRIZE MONEY P750,000**

<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>CHIHIRO IKEDA</b> Philippines P77,500</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>R1</th> <th>R2</th> <th>R3</th> <th>TOTAL</th> <th>TO PAR</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>74</td> <td>73</td> <td>70</td> <td>217</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	74	73	70	217	1	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>KIM HEE JI (AM)</b> Korea -</p>
R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR							
74	73	70	217	1							

<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>DOTTIE ARDINA</b> Philippines P77,500</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>R1</th> <th>R2</th> <th>R3</th> <th>TOTAL</th> <th>TO PAR</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>70</td> <td>70</td> <td>77</td> <td>217</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	70	70	77	217	1	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>KANYALAK PREEDASUTTIJIT</b> Thailand P52,000</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>R1</th> <th>R2</th> <th>R3</th> <th>TOTAL</th> <th>TO PAR</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>73</td> <td>72</td> <td>73</td> <td>218</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	73	72	73	218	2
R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR																	
70	70	77	217	1																	
R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR																	
73	72	73	218	2																	

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	Princess Mary SUPERAL	PHL	76	73	70	219	3	P42,333
=	Yupaporn KAWINPAKORN	THA	75	73	71	219	3	P42,333
=	Chatprapa SIRIPRAKOB	THA	73	73	73	219	3	P42,333
9	Thanuttra BOONRAKSASAT	THA	71	74	75	220	4	P35,000
10	Pauline DEL ROSARIO	PHL	74	73	75	222	6	P32,500

**COMING OFF** a thrilling finish the last time out, the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour braced for an equally gripping finale when it held its fourth leg at Splendido Taal Golf Club.

For good reasons.

Thai ace Yupaporn Kawinpakorn was back aiming for a follow-up to her imposing Beverly Place feat, so did Pauline del Rosario, the defending champion who was coming off a joint 15th finish in the China LPGA Tour Qualifying School. Symetra Tour campaigners Dottie Ardina, Princess Superal and Cyna Rodriguez were all raring to end a long spell in the circuit they used to dominate and Chihiro Ikeda was brimming with confidence following a three-hole playoff victory at Eagle Ridge.

From among these names the "so-called" experts picked their bets to emerge on top after 54 holes at one of the country's toughest courses.

Nobody mentioned Pavarisa Yoktuan.

A three-time winner on the Thai LPGA with five top five finishes on the 2018 Symetra Tour, Yoktuan emerged from the shadows of her more illustrious Thai compatriots, putting up strong starts in the first two rounds of the P750,000 event then taking the best that the country's best could dish out in the final round – and proving she's better.

Yoktuan pounced on Ardina's rocky start in the final day to complete a lopsided wire-to-wire seven-stroke breakthrough triumph.

"It's a nice feeling to win here for the first time," said Yoktuan. "The greens were fast but overall, the course was in perfect shape."

So did she.

Bracing for a fierce final round duel with Ardina, Yoktuan hardly found a challenge, pulling away by five despite a par-game at the turn as the former self-destructed with three bogeys at the rolling, hazard-laden layout.

From there, it was cruise control for the Thai, who finished with a 72 on a two-birdie, two-bogey stint for a winning 210 total, adding up to the growing list of Thai winners linking the 2017-18 LPGT seasons after victories by Renuka Suksukont in the Philippine Ladies Masters and Kawinpakorn at South Forbes and Beverly Place.

Ikeda, who broke the Thais' streak at Eagle Ridge, tried to give chase in an earlier flight but the nine-shot overnight deficit proved too big to overcome for the Fil-Japanese shotmaker, who hit three birdies in the first 12 holes but could only come closest at six. She bogeyed No. 15 for a 70 and tied Ardina, who limped with a 77 after two 70s, and Korean amateur Kim Hee Ji, who matched par 72, at 217.

Superal, Del Rosario and Rodriguez?

The former US Girls Junior champion rallied with a 70 but could only finish at sixth at 219, the dethroned champion ended up 10th at 222 after a 75 and the former three-time LPGT Order of Merit titlist also closed out with a three-over card for a 232.

Nobody had a chance to even pose a threat on a fired-up Yoktuan.



**1** With her superb short game and power, it's just a matter of time before Korean amateur Kim Hee Ji could break into the elite circle of LPGT winners. **2** Long in talent, lanky Korean amateur Hwang Min-Jeong comes up short of her par-saving bid from a tough lie. **3** Chihiro Ikeda's gesture typifies her tournament-long struggle on Splendido's tricky surface, which also proved to be a bane for the fancied Thai Yupaporn Kawinpakorn. **4** Pauline del Rosario and Cyna Rodriguez need not to look further to grasp what stymied their respective title bids. **5** Dottie Ardina breaks into a smile after a solid drive but Yoktuan had the last laugh with her emphatic triumph. **6** Shaky putting has kept top players like Princess Superal from contending for an LPGT diadem.

**SPLENDIDO TAAL GOLF CLUB**  
Laurel, Batangas

The Greg Norman-designed, 18-hole par-72 all-weather championship layout is a truly majestic course sprawled on a 152-hectare man-made valley nestled amidst the mountain ridges of the Grand Taal with a dramatic view of the Taal Volcano and Lake.



# GETTING HIGH AT HIGHLANDS

TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS CHALLENGE • MARCH 14-16, 2018

**Former amateur star snaps 2-year spell in record fashion**



**Princess Mary Superal**  
CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	71	69	67	207	-3	P250,000

Two years without a top podium finish, Princess Superal is back on a familiar spot again.

**2** **CYNA RODRIGUEZ**  
Philippines  
P120,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
77	71	75	223	13

**3** **CHIHIRO IKEDA**  
Philippines  
P85,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	75	83	228	18

**4** **AMOLKAN PHALAJIVIN**  
Thailand  
P76,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
79	77	75	231	21

**5** **TIRANAN YOOPAN**  
Thailand  
P65,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
80	80	72	232	22

## PRIZE MONEY P1,000,000

**I KNEW I COULD WIN AGAIN AND I'VE WAITED FOR THIS FOR SO LONG**

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	Kristine TORRALBA (AM)	PHL	75	81	77	233	23	-
7	Saruttaya NGAM-USAWAN	THA	78	83	73	234	24	P60,000
8	BANG Choeun (AM)	KOR	80	79	76	235	25	-
9	Sarah ABABA	PHL	79	80	78	237	27	P46,000
=	Sarinee THITIRATANAKORN	THA	75	79	83	237	27	P46,000



**1** First round leader Chihiro Ikeda has perhaps all the reasons to get embarrassed after finishing with a horrible 83 **2** Sylvia Torres can't be clearly seen from behind the trees as well on the leaderboard **3** Tired or otherwise, Alex Etter takes her own sweet time figuring out her next shot. **4** One-time LPGT leg winner Saruttaya Ngam-usawan can't seem to pick which wedge to use just outside the green. **5** Errant shots stymie Cyna Rodriguez's bid to end her own title drought in the circuit where she reigned thrice **6** Former leg winner Amolkan Phalajivin may have lost some lustre in her game but not her charm.

**GOING WINLESS for a considerable amount of time on a circuit she used to dominate – even as an amateur – only makes her a lot hungrier, fiercer.**

Never mind if she's up against a formidable field and hard-pressed and frantic to put an end to a two-year title spell. Never mind if she's tackling a windy course so exacting that it brings out not just the best but also the worst from each bidder.

For as long as she's up to the task and keeps that winning attitude, many believe it's only a matter of time before Princess Superal could start winning again.

And she did – in a manner only a player of her caliber could dish out.

"I knew I could win again and I've waited for this for so long," said Superal after snapping a two-year title spell on the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour in record fashion, dominating the P1 million ICTSI Tagaytay Highlands Ladies Challenge via a record 16-stroke victory over Cyna Rodriguez.

In breaking a long spell, Superal flashed the form that won her a number of pro tournaments as an amateur and as a newly-minted pro, the last in late 2016 via a one-stroke victory over then amateur Pauline del Rosario at Eastridge.

The former US Girls Junior champion tamed the wind-raked Highlands layout with solid driving and superb iron play, closing out

with three-under 67 to outclass the field that included a slew of Thai aces on a 54-hole total of three-under 207.

Rodriguez failed to back up her pre-tournament brag that she was in great form and shape and ready to win again. The former three-time Order of Merit winner hardly recovered from two bogeys in the first five holes with a birdie on the sixth and limped with a 40 and a 75 for 223.

"This will surely boost my confidence in my next tournaments," added Superal, whose feat shattered the circuit's previous largest winning margin of 15 which Thai and now-LPGA campaigner Meechai Wichanee posted at Splendido in 2015 over compatriot Walailak Satarak and former leg winner Sarah Ababa.

Like Rodriguez, Chihiro Ikeda, who grabbed the first round lead despite playing with a

slight wrist injury, failed to rebound from a poor start marred by a triple bogey on the par-5 No. 4, finishing with a horrible 40-43 (83) and ending up third at 228.

Amolkan Phalajivin, the first Thai winner in the circuit in 2014 at Splendido, emerged as the top finisher among the aces from Thailand at fourth at 231 after a 75.

Though she trailed Ikeda by one in the early going, Superal knew she had figured out not only the course but the field as well.

"It's hard to play the course with the wind coming into play on most holes. The fairways are also tight, so I have to keep my shots safe," said Superal, who used solid driving and superb iron game to whip the dreaded wind and the elite field – and reach the top again – fittingly at Highlands.



**TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
*Talisay, Batangas*

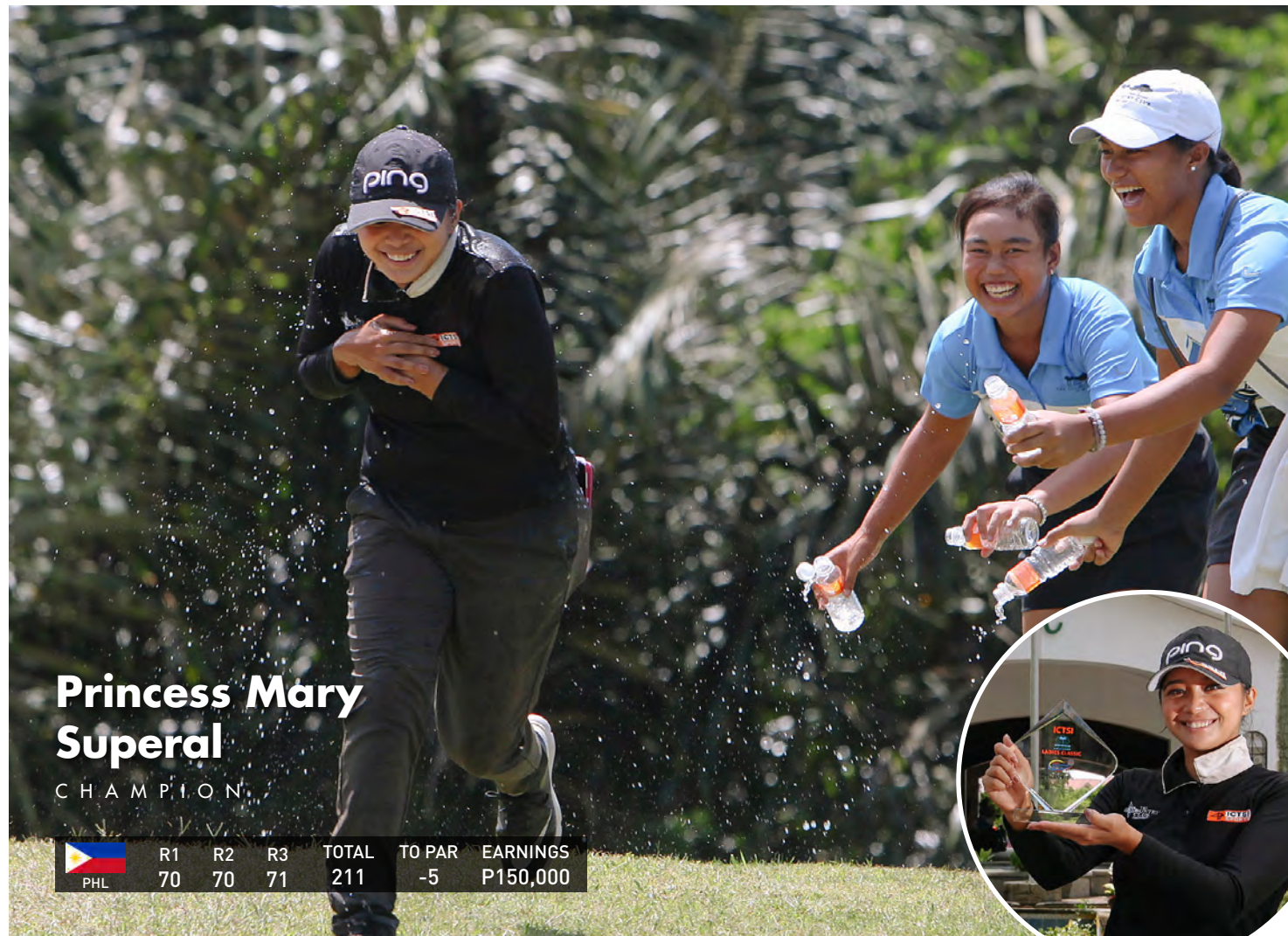
Set atop Tagaytay's highest elevations, the Highlands course is feared by many for the various challenges it offers, including its tight fairways and undulating greens, especially in the presence of the wind. Designed with much thought and calculation to the high elevation and the natural scenic landscaping, golf architect Richard Bigler integrated the human ingenuity with the native elements of its surroundings.



# (W)OMAN OF WORDS

**Red-hot Superal makes it back-to-back at Riviera**

RIVIERA CLASSIC • MARCH 21-23, 2018



**Princess Mary Superal**  
CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
PHL	70	70	71	211	-5	P150,000

Getting drenched has become a regular sight for Princess Superal after posting another victory at Riviera.

**2** **GRETCHEN VILLACENCIO**  
Philippines  
P95,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	70	77	216	0

**3** **KIM HEE JI (AM)**  
Korea  
-

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	73	75	218	2

**4** **BANG CHOEUN (AM)**  
Korea  
-

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
72	76	71	219	3

**5** **CHIHIRO IKEDA**  
Philippines  
P60,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
76	71	73	220	4

## PRIZE MONEY P750,000

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	Cyna RODRIGUEZ	PHL	72	69	80	221	5	P52,000
=	HWANG Min Jeong (AM)	KOR	76	71	74	221	5	-
8	Marvi MONSALVE	PHL	75	73	74	222	6	P45,000
9	Missy LEGASPI (AM)	PHL	71	76	77	224	8	-
10	Mafy SINGSON (AM)	PHL	77	70	80	227	11	-

**I FEEL GOOD AFTER THAT BIG WIN (AT HIGHLANDS) AND I'M REALLY CONFIDENT COMING OVER HERE AT RIVIERA**

**BACKING UP her words with performance, Princess Superal is back to where she was the last time out.**

And it hardly came as a surprise for the ace who came into the ICTSI Riviera Ladies Classic brimming with confidence following a record 16-stroke romp at Tagaytay Highlands.

"I feel good after that big win (at Highlands) and I'm really confident coming over here at Riviera," said Superal, who actually braced for big fightback from the likes of Cyna Rodriguez, Chihiro Ikeda and Thai Amolkan Phalajivin, whom she humbled at Highlands, and a tough challenge from a slew of Korean amateurs who call Riviera's Couples course their home.

But no one from the fancied names figured in the race for the crown, perhaps still reeling from a stinging beating they received from Superal the last time out.

And that virtually made former amateur hotshot's job a lot simpler, easier, so to speak.

But one unheralded bet, whose best finish

after five legs of the 2018 LPGT was 12th at Beverly Place, stepped up not only to provide the needed challenge but even taking command in the opener of the P750,000 championship.

Behind a career-best three-under 69 on superb iron play and putting, Gretchen Villacencio found herself a bewildered leader, snatching a one-stroke lead over Superal and Korean amateur Kim Hee Ji.

She actually held sway with a second round 70, staying ahead of Superal, who, however, remained confident of pulling it off in the end.

She was right.

With her driving and irons clicking and her putting coming into fore, Superal hit all but two fairways and used 27 putts to shoot a 71, running away instead with a five-shot triumph on a 54-hole total of 211.

"It's a nice win, a big confidence-boost. It was tough at the start and I knew I had to go under to win. My driving and irons clicked and my putting helped me a lot," said Superal.

She also credited her coach Bong (Lopez), who kept reminding her on how to handle the pressure and avoid unnecessary mistakes. "He also stressed the need for regular practice to keep my form heading to Symetra Tour," said Superal, referring to her campaign in LPGA Tour's farm league in the US.

In contrast, Villacencio crumbled when ranged against the most feared player in the fold. But though she bombed out with a 77, Villacencio still posted her career-best runner-up finish at 216.

Still, the day – and the week – belonged to Superal again as she rebounded from a double-bogey mishap on No. 5 with three birdies in the last 12 holes then watched her rivals fade with horrendous finishes to clinch the victory. Though it paled in comparison with her record setting win at Highlands, it kept Superal on track in her effort to build some confidence heading to her Symetra Tour campaign.

But that's another story.



**1** Unable to mount a challenge, Sherly Villacencio instead opted to strike a pose **2** Just two adrift after 36 holes, Cyna Rodriguez finds her title bid buried in the deep sands of Couples course. **3** Though she fails to sustain an impressive start, Korean amateur Kim Hee Ji still showed a lot of promise and potential with a third place finish **4** Putting woes impede Gretchen Villacencio's final round charge against Princess Superal **5** Flubbed putts from short range keep Apple Fudolin away from contention for the nth time **6** Three-time Asian Tour winner and Japan PGA Tour campaigner Angelo Que takes time out from his hectic sked to carry the bag for wife Tracy. **7** Chihiro Ikeda can't get much help from poor wedge shots **8** Not even shaky putting early in the final round could stop Superal from nailing another victory.



## RIVIERA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB Silang, Cavite

The Riviera Golf Club is an exciting concept unparalleled in the Philippines for its vision to be among Asia's most outstanding golf courses. This golf club is destined to be a golf mecca and at the same time it provides the ultimate in comfort and elegance. Found amidst the breathtaking landscape of cool Silang, Cavite, The Riviera Golf Club, Inc. is the ideal course for all ages and skills. The courses promise to be friendly to beginners as well as challenging for the more skilled players.



# THE HARD WAY

LUISITA CHAMPIONSHIP • APRIL 4-6, 2018

**Thai ace scores, outlasts Rodriguez in playoff**



**Supakchaya Pattaranakrueang**

CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
THA	74	73	72	219	3	P350,000

From India to Thailand and China, Supakchaya Pattaranakrueang finally puts a stop to a long title quest at Luisita.

**2** **CYNA RODRIGUEZ**  
Philippines  
P185,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	75	74	219	3

**3** **MIKAELA FORTUNA (AM)**  
Philippines  
-

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
77	74	71	222	6

**3** **PRINCESS MARY SUPERAL**  
Philippines  
P125,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
76	75	71	222	6

**5** **THANUTTRA BOONRAKSASAT**  
Thailand  
P115,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
77	74	72	223	7

**PRIZE MONEY P1,500,000**

**I'M VERY HAPPY. I'VE BEEN WANTING TO WIN HERE**

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	Chihiro IKEDA	PHL	82	72	70	224	8	P87,500
=	Marvi MONSALVE	PHL	74	74	76	224	8	P87,500
8	Numa GULYANAMITTA	THA	78	76	74	228	12	P75,000
9	Saruttaya NGAM-USAWAN	THA	80	77	73	230	14	P63,000
=	Sofia CHABON (AM)	PHL	80	71	79	230	14	-

**SHE'S BEEN chasing a Ladies Philippine Golf Tour crown for so long that the hunt almost took the length of her full name.**

But Supakchaya Pattaranakrueang didn't mind the excruciating wait. Not even going through a gripping three-hole sudden death against a player so rich in such playoff experience.

What matters now is the championship.

In fact, after outlasting Cyna Rodriguez on the third extra hole to snare the ICTSI Luisita Ladies Championship diadem, the Thai did what other first-time winners would perhaps not dare do – take a break.

While most would seize the moment and try to ride the momentum and launch another title bid, Pattaranakrueang took what she thought was the next best thing to do.

"I'd like to rest for now and enjoy the moment," said the 29-year-old Thai, who missed clinching it on the first playoff hole on No. 18 but hit a solid drive and a superb approach shot on No. 10 then drilled in the putt from pin-length distance to end a strenuous search for a victory here and abroad.

"I'm very happy. I've been wanting to win here," said Pattaranakrueang, who tied for 13th at the Tagaytay Highlands Ladies Challenge and saw action in India, Thailand and China in pursuit of a championship – to no avail.

Until she birdied No. 16 in regulation play to salvage a 72 and force a tie at 219 as Rodriguez, a former three-time LPGT Order of Merit winner, squandered a two-shot lead with a poor frontside stint. The Pinay ace fought back from three down to regain the lead with back-to-back birdies from No. 14 but settled for pars the rest of the way for a 74.

Both traded pars on the par-4 No. 18 twice with Rodriguez needing a pair of par saves and Pattaranakrueang miffing her birdie putt from 12 feet and saving a par on the next after overshooting the green.

Rodriguez hit the fairway bunker on the third extra hole and came up short on her approach and Pattaranakrueang never gave her the chance to extend the duel further by sinking that title-clinching putt worth P350,000.

While the Thai ended her long title chase, the setback extended Rodriguez's two-year title spell in the circuit that was once her virtual playground.

Pattaranakrueang's triumph likewise snapped Princess Superal back-to-back title run although the latter charged back from six down to force a tie at three-over overall with a three birdie-string from No. 12. But the winner at Tagaytay and Riviera overshot the par-3 No. 17 and ended up with a bogey before dropping another stroke on the final hole to finish with a 71. She wound up tied for third with amateur Mikha Fortuna, who also carded a 71, at 222.

Two behind Rodriguez after 36 holes, Pattaranakrueang seized control with birdies on Nos. 4 and 8 as Rodriguez dropped two strokes on the seventh and bogeyed the next, putting the Thai ahead instead by three at the turn.

But Rodriguez refused to give up and gunned down back-to-back birdies from No. 14, the last netting her back the lead as Pattaranakrueang double-bogeyed the par-4 14th, setting up the stirring finish – a thriller for the Thai bet and a heartbreaker for the Pinay ace.



**1** Cyna Rodriguez must've realized a bit late her 'power' with the putter. **2** Chihiro Ikeda tries to figure her way out after getting trapped under the trees. **3** Given a rare chance to shine in the championship flight, Marvi Monsalve fails to seize the moment with shaky putting. **4** Princess Superal watches her short putt miss its target – and her win run abruptly halted at two. **5** It's only a matter of time before amateur Mikha Fortuna (right), with fellow The Country Club mainstay Sofia Chabon, could contend in the big league. **6** Thai Thanuttra Boonraksasat tries to look ahead after her final round charge fizzled out.

**LUISITA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
Tarlac City, Tarlac

Considered as one of the finest 18-hole, par-72 championship courses in the country, the Luisita Golf and Country Club has been home to the President's Cup, one of the country's four majors in the 90s. Situated on a 70-hectare area bounded on the east by a sugar central, it is the only golf course designed by the renowned Robert Trent Jones, Sr. in the country. The front nine is built mostly on an open but rolling ground while the backside is shaped by meandering creek.




# WINNING FEELING

MT. MALARAYAT CLASSIC • MAY 15-17, 2018

**Thai rookie goes big time with Malarayat romp**



**Onkanok Soisuwan**  
CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
	70	69	71	210	-6	P300,000

Onkanok Soisuwan pumps her way to victory on her very first try.



**1** Missed putts help extend Tirapan Yoopan's winless run in the LPGT **2** Amateur Mikha Fortuna hopes her joint runner-up finish will put her in good stead in her future LPGT campaigns **3** So solid with her long game in the first round, Chommapat Pongtharak lost her touch off the mound in the next two days – and her crack for a first LPGT diadem **4** Awesome with her lead-sharing 70 in the first round, amateur Sofia Chabon loses her focus and blows her title bid with two 76s **5** Chihiro Ikeda grapples with her balky putter all tournament-long **6** Cyna Rodriguez weighs up her options from a stymied lie **7** While most Thai players go upswing with their games, Amolkan Phalajivin's continue to go on a downswing.

**ALL SHE had wanted was to gain experience. But what Thai Onkanok Soisuwan got was more than what she had hoped for.**

Not only did she get that feel of big-time competition but also came out of the ICTSI Mount Malarayat Ladies Classic with the winning feeling.

"I didn't expect to win because this is my first tournament as a pro," said Soisuwan, whose cling to amateur fame was anchoring Team Southeast Asia's title romps over the Phil's best amateurs in the Pradera Ladies Challenge in 2017-18.

Those solid stints in Lubao, Pampanga gave the 17-year-old rising star the impetus to go for more, the motivation to slug it out with some of the country's top pros along with a slew of Thai aces in the country's premier ladies circuit.

And she didn't disappoint.

A seven-stroke victory for a rookie pro? It wasn't only impressive but more so emphatic.

From her first drive in the pro ranks, things seemed to look up quite fast for Soisuwan, whose opening 70 put her on top with fellow Thai Chommapat Pongtharak and top Filipina amateur Sofia Chabon.

She actually rued her shaky long game but kept her poise to put herself in early contention at Mt. Malarayat's composite course.

"The first round was really difficult, especially my driver. But I stayed focused and kept my

composure. I also had some trouble with my irons but I still got it," she said.

But come the second round, it was all Soisuwan show. She bounced back from a wobbly start with a cluster of birdies at the back, shooting a 69 and storming to a six-stroke lead over Cyna Rodriguez and two other Thais.

She actually stepped on the 18th mound with a whopping eight-stroke lead after a five-birdie string at Mt. Malipunyo but holed out with a double-bogey, settling for a 36-33 card and giving her rivals some chance for a fightback with 18 holes to play in the P1.25 million tournament.

No comeback ever ensued, not even a hint of it.

With Pongtharak and Chabon limping with a pair of 76s, Rodriguez and Thais Pannapa Polnamin and Tiranana Yoopan took up the challenge, but a token one if one may say as

nobody was able to mount any serious threat, paving the way for Soisuwan's inexorable march to golfing fame.

She pooled a six-under 210 and banked P300,000 for her maiden feat.

Fortuna matched Soisuwan's closing 71 and tied for second at 217 with Yoopan, who matched par 72, as Rodriguez, who trailed Soisuwan after 36 holes, failed to get going with a double-bogey start and a bogey on the par-5 No. 9. She did hit two birdies at the back to finish with a 74 for fourth at 218.

Soisuwan's victory was also Thailand's fourth after eight legs of the 2018 tour, underscoring the country's perennial regional rivals' domination.

But while Princess Superal's whopping 16-stroke romp over Rodriguez in Tagaytay remains the circuit's biggest winning record, Soisuwan's runaway triumph becomes the latest toast of Philippine ladies golf.

**PRIZE MONEY**  
**P1,250,000**

**I DIDN'T EXPECT TO WIN BECAUSE THIS IS MY FIRST TOURNAMENT AS A PRO**

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
=	Pannapa POLNAMIN	THA	76	69	76	221	5	P77,500
7	Junia Louise GABASA (AM)	PHL	76	74	72	222	6	-
=	Sofia CHABON (AM)	PHL	70	76	76	222	6	-
9	Gretchen VILLACENCIO	PHL	75	75	73	223	7	P57,500
=	Chihiro IKEDA	PHL	72	77	74	223	7	P57,500

**2 MIKAELLA FORTUNA (AM)**  
Philippines

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
77	69	71	217	1

**2 TIRANAN YOOPAN**  
Thailand

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	74	72	217	1

**4 CYN A RODRIGUEZ**  
Philippines

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	74	73	218	2

**5 CHOMMAPAT PONGTHANARAK**  
Thailand

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	76	75	221	5



**MT. MALARAYAT GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
Lipa City, Batangas

The three nines are named after the adjacent mountains. The Mount Lobo course is the shortest of the three but certainly a good test. The Mount Malipunyo course takes off adjacent to the Lobo. The Mt. Makulot loop is a favorite of many. There is an interesting ebb and flow of holes. For an all-around golfing menu, Mount Malarayat has a triple order. The course is usually in immaculate shape, even during rainy season with the usual 419 Bermuda fairways and Tifdwarf greens. In addition to the fine course, there is a practice facility with target greens and you can hit off turf.



# REST IS BEST

WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP AT SUMMIT POINT • JUNE 13-15, 2018

## Reinvigorated Thai reigns at Summit



**Yupaporn Kawinpakorn**  
CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
	69	70	67	206	-10	P350,000

A well-deserved respite enables Yupaporn Kawinpakorn to blast the opposition again.

A SEVEN-WEEK foray at various regional circuits would indeed make one, even the sturdiest of them, drained and exhausted. So after hitting a 69 and 70 to seize control of The Women's Championship at Summit Point, Thai Yupaporn Kawinpakorn did the next best thing – hit the sack early.

"I've been grinding it out the last seven weeks so it was a much-needed rest. I felt really good when I woke up and had a lot of energy (in the final round)," said Kawinpakorn.

She did come out refreshed while threatened by an amateur in the final round, turning in a kind of finish that wins big-time golf tournaments – an eagle-spiked backside 32 – for a 67 and a three-stroke romp on a 10-under 206.

With local pros Pauline del Rosario, Chihiro Ikeda and Cyna Rodriguez failing to mount any serious challenge, amateur Lois Kaye Go took up the cudgels with a flawless 34 at the front and kept an impressive bogey-free 68

on a windy course where each hole replicates the famous golf holes in the world.

But that brilliant final round output – one that could also nail championships – proved not enough to halt the spearhead of a crack 21-player Thai crew, who eagled the par-5 14th and birdied Nos. 11 and 15 to highlight her blistering finish.

The victory, her second on the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour in the season following her three-shot win over Ikeda at Beverly Place, also proved to be a fitting follow-up to her two-shot triumph in the China LPGT Tour in Guangdong the previous week.

The country's best bests never got into the groove to make some impact with Del Rosario failing to show the form that won her four titles in 2017 en route to the Order of Merit diadem. She broke par with a closing 71 but was far off the race with a 72-76 start.

Ikeda, winner at Eagle Ridge, did stay in the early mix with a 70 but reeled back with a 73

and ended up fifth with a 71 while Rodriguez, who dominated the first three seasons of the country's premier circuit, also had a decent 71-72 but skied to a 77 and tumbled to 13th.

Thanks to the 19-year-old Go, who provided the challenge expected from the country's pros. Despite her failed title bid, Go ran away with the low amateur honors and a runner-up finish at 209 with Thai Chonlada Chayanun, who shot a 69, placing third at 210.

"Before Summit, my putting was off but there was much improvement the last two days. In fact, it was better than I expected," said Go, who also flashed a near-flawless iron game, missing just one green.

"That created a lot of birdie opportunities. Too bad, I didn't make some of them coming home," she added.

But even if she did, a revitalized Kawinpakorn would've still won it – hands down.



1 One thing an all-pumped up Yupaporn Kawinpakorn won't ever get tired of is winning. 2 A long birdie putt brings out some dancing skills from the daughter-father tandem of Gretchen and Arnold Villacencio. 3 Saraporn Chamchoi seems like playing a different kind of sport after getting a relief. 4 It's just a matter of time before Marvi Monsalve could finally put a stop to her final round struggles. 5 Chonlada Chayanun gets ready for a final round duel with Kawinpakorn that never really materialized. 6 Stretching comes in different forms. 7 After a decent opening 72, Japanese Ayaka Morimitsu finds her bid for the 15-player cut washed out with a fat 79. 8 With her form, talent and skills, young amateur Lois Kaye Go could go for more cracks at the pro crowns.

**2** **LOIS KAYE GO (AM)**  
Philippines  
R1 R2 R3 TOTAL TO PAR  
71 70 68 209 -7

**3** **CHONLADA CHAYANUN**  
Thailand  
P185,000  
R1 R2 R3 TOTAL TO PAR  
72 70 69 210 -6

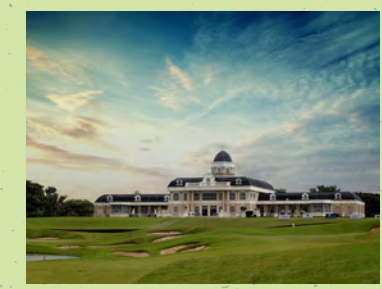
**4** **ONKANOK SOISUWANN**  
Thailand  
P125,000  
R1 R2 R3 TOTAL TO PAR  
69 73 69 211 -5

**5** **CHIHIRO IKEDA**  
Philippines  
P115,000  
R1 R2 R3 TOTAL TO PAR  
70 73 71 214 -2

## PRIZE MONEY P1,500,000

I'VE BEEN GRINDING IT OUT THE LAST SEVEN WEEKS SO IT WAS A MUCH-NEEDED REST

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	Aunchisa UTAMA	THA	73	70	73	216	0	P95,000
7	Marvi MONSALVE	PHL	69	72	76	217	1	P72,666
=	Tiranap YOOBAN	THA	74	75	68	217	1	P72,666
=	Pannapa POLNAMIN	THA	73	76	68	217	1	P72,666
10	Saraporn CHAMCHOI	THA	68	80	70	218	2	P55,000



## SUMMIT POINT GOLF CLUB

Lipa City, Batangas

The Summit Point Golf Club prides itself as the only course in the country that brings together strategic elements inspired by some of the world's famous golf holes, including Augusta National's No. 12 and Winged Foot's No. 10, among others. Top golf course designer Robert Trent Jones Jr. made sure that even with the variety of styles, the routing flows smoothly from one hole to the next, thus making the 7,107-yard, 18-hole golf course a celebration of the best golf has to offer from around the world.



# SHORT CUT TO (TLPGA) SUCCESS

CHAMPION TOUR AT SOUTHWOODS • JULY 18-20, 2018

**Thai with kilometric-long name takes short cut to victory**



**Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng**  
CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
TWN	65	69	-	134	-10	\$15,000

Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng gets the traditional douse from fellow players after the abbreviated win.

**2** **PRINCESS MARY SUPERAL**  
Philippines  
\$6,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	68	-	138	-6

**3** **SUPAMAS SANGCHAN**  
Thailand  
\$6,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	68	-	138	-6

**4** **YU-CHIANG HOU (AM)**  
Taiwan

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
67	71	-	138	-6

**5** **YU-SANG HOU (AM)**  
Taiwan

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	70	-	139	-5

**PRIZE MONEY \$75,000**

**MY APPROACH SHOTS ARE GOOD AND I LIKE THE FAIRWAYS THOUGH IT'S WET BECAUSE I CAN CHOP THE BALL**

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	Saranporn LANGKULGASETRIN	THA	72	68	-	140	-4	\$3,150
7	Chihiro IKEDA	PHL	75	66	-	141	-3	\$2,550
8	Chonlada CHAYANUN	THA	72	70	-	142	-2	\$1,687
9	Onkanok SOISUWAN	THA	71	71	-	142	-2	\$1,687
=	Aunchisa UTAMA	THA	70	72	-	142	-2	\$1,687

**SHE'S ALL** primed up for the big battle, a final round skirmish with the best and the brightest. Despite two bogey-free cards in tough conditions, Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng still feels her four-shot cushion doesn't guarantee a victory in the Champion Tour at Manila Southwoods.

With Princess Superal, compatriot Supamas Sangchan and Taiwan amateur Hou Yu-chiang on the prowl and a host of others ready to pounce despite trailing by huge deficits, Wilairungrueng wants to make sure she'd be at her best in the final 18 holes of the first of two \$75,000 Ladies Philippine Golf Tour championships also held as part of the Taiwan LPGA circuit.

But it turned out she didn't need a single shot to claim the crown and didn't need to brandish the form she dished out in the first two rounds to make it to the top. More importantly, there's no need for her to go through an excruciating test as organizers cancelled the final round due to inclement weather.

"I would've wanted to play because I want to see if I can measure up to the pressure and control my game in a tight championship flight," said Wilairungrueng, who shot solid rounds of 65-69 on her first foray on a rain-hit course that she said suits her game.

"This is the course I love. My approach shots are good and I like the fairways though it's wet because I can chop the ball," said Wilairungrueng, who crushed Superal and Ching Huang with an opening 32-33 round through superb putting that produced seven birdies.

"I really had it going. Even when I'm in trouble, I would recover and make par saves," said the 5-11 shotmaker from Chiang Rai.

Yu-chiang also turned in a bogey-free card of 34-33 that kept her in step with Wilairungrueng after 12 holes before the Thai birdied No. 13 to take control then matched Superal's closing birdie to gain a two-shot edge.

Superal tried to give chase with a second round 68, moving to joint second with Sangchan, who also shot a 68, and Yu-chiang, who made a 71, at 138 but failed to press her bid, enabling Wilairungrueng to hike her lead to four at 134 with a 69.

It stayed that way as incessant rains rendered some parts of the Legends course unplayable. The organizers delayed the start of the final round, hoping the weather will improve but decided to cancel it altogether after a while, handing the crown to the Thai ace.

"I feel I'm still hot from the second round. Sayang. I think I've got a good chance to go for it," rued Superal, who wound up joint second with Sangchan (68) and Yu-chiang (71) at 138.

But for many, even if the weather had improved and the final round was resumed, nobody, not even the best in the fold, could catch up with the 23-year-old Thai.

For Wilairungrueng had coped admirably with wet conditions in the first two days that virtually sealed her short cut to the summit.



**1** Hou Yu-sang figures out what went wrong in her sibling rivalry with Yu-chiang for low amateur honors **2** Supamas Sangchan is all focused as she checks the wind direction **3** With a pair of 71s, Soisuwan never really gets that chance to flaunt her iron game **4** Marvi Monsalve never runs out of antics but still can't pull off a caper **5** Superb bunker shots help hike Wilairungrueng's lead in the second round **6** No. Chihiro Ikeda isn't torn between using a wedge or a rake for her approach shot **7** Princess Superal (left) literally has tall odds to overcome in her quest for crown. **8** The talented Thais flash the No. 1 sign to underscore their domination of the Taiwan LPGA-sanctioned Champion Tour at Southwoods.

**THE MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
*Carmona, Cavite*

Slightly shorter than the Master's course, the Legend's layout stands at 7,093 yards long. While the challenging Master's course is designed around 'traps' and water hazards, the bunker-laden Legend's layout is dominated by high mounds, making the par 72 layout friendlier to high handicappers but posing a real challenge to those more experienced golfers trying to aim for a low score.



# NO HAZY FEAT

CHAMPION TOUR AT MIDLANDS • JULY 25-27, 2018

Huang emerges from a foggy duel a clear winner



Ching Huang

CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
TWN	67	70	67	204	-12	\$15,000

After surviving harsh playing conditions and escaping the Thais, Ching Huang fails to elude the traditional victory douse from her pals.



1 Shaky stint on the mound hampers Pannapa Polnamin's second round bid 2 Focused and all, former LPGT winner Renuka Suksukont still falls short of her title drive in the face of Ching Huang's blazing finish 3 Back-to-back 70s fail to shore up former TLPGA champion Lee Jeong-hwa's bid 4 In the thick of things after 36 holes, Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng fades out with a number of bunker visits 5 Bad weather keeps the players out of the course 6 Saranporn Langkulgasetrin couldn't wait to resume her bid in the second round after an opening 69 7 Princess Superal rues another botched bid to showcase her talent against a crack international field on a bigger golf stage 8 Flubbed putts keep former three-time LPGT Order of Merit champion Cyna Rodriguez out of the final round 9 Chihiro Ikeda ponders on what to do to make a big turnaround a 74-72 start 10 With another final round meltdown, Thai Tiranan Yoopan could only look forward to the next tournament.

**AS FOG set in and swathed the backside of Midlands, no one could really tell where the final round of the ICTSI Champion Tour was heading.**

It could go the way it did at Southwoods where play was cancelled in the last day due to inclement weather and unplayable conditions or the co-organizers could opt to stop the final 18 holes and let the three co-leaders – Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng and Renuka Suksukont of Thailand and Ching Huang of Taiwan dispute the crown in a playoff.

But fate smiled at the resilient Taiwanese, who endured a long rain delay then came out of foggy condition a clear winner – beating her stunned Thai rivals by four on a solid windup at Tagaytay Midlands.

"It was hard when it rained in the middle holes then it became harder when fog set in that I could barely see the ball," said Huang, who birdied three of the last four holes in wet, tough conditions for a 65 and a 12-under 204, turning what had appeared to be a wild, scrambling finish into a runaway triumph.

The Thais failed to match the Taiwanese fiery finish as Supamas Sangchan, first round leader Pannapa Polnamin and Suksukont wound up with identical 208s on 68, 69 and 71, respectively.

The margin of victory didn't actually reflect the manner by which Huang had to overcome

the pressure from her chief rivals, including local ace Princess Superal, and the tension of a finale that in one stretch had looked uncertain due to unplayable conditions.

But the battle heated up at the turn as Superal charged back from five-down to one with a flawless 31 before play was stopped due to heavy downpour. Organizers also considered cancelling the third round altogether due to near-zero visibility and let the three leaders after 36 holes – Wilairungrueng, Suksukont and Huang – fight for the crown in a playoff.

But as the skies cleared and play was resumed, Superal pressed her bid in third-to-the-last flight with another birdie on No. 12, only to bogey two of the next three to kiss her title bid goodbye.

In contrast, Huang hit a chip-in birdie on No. 15, added another from close range on the next then capped her explosive windup with a

fifth birdie from eight feet on the 18th.

Suksukont, in joint lead with Huang and Wilairungrueng after 36 holes, actually finished with a solid backside 34 but faltered at the front with a 37 and finished with a 71.

After a 36 start, Wilairungrueng tried to fight back with birdies on Nos. 13 and 16 but wavered at the finish, bogeying the last two holes for a 72 on flubbed putts from short distance.

"I'm not really good at sloping and slow greens. I think I need to work on that," said Wilairungrueng, who sizzled at the sleek putting surface of Southwoods where she went bogey-free in her abbreviated 36-hole title romp.

Chuang matched that unblemished finish at Midlands, essaying a convincing triumph after finishing way behind at joint 34th at Southwoods.

**IT WAS HARD WHEN IT RAINED THEN IT BECAME HARDER WHEN FOG SET IN THAT I COULD BARELY SEE THE BALL**

PRIZE MONEY  
**\$75,000**

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	Chonlada CHAYANUN	THA	70	70	70	210	-6	\$1,950
=	Princess Mary SUPERAL	PHL	68	74	68	210	-6	\$1,950
8	Waralee ATCHARERK	THA	71	70	71	212	-4	\$1,375
=	Saranporn LANGKULGASETRIN	THA	69	72	71	212	-4	\$1,375
=	Parinda PHOKAN	THA	68	74	70	212	-4	\$1,375

**2** **RENUKA SUKSUKONT**  
Thailand  
\$5,050

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	69	71	208	-8

**2** **PANNA PA POLNAMIN**  
Thailand  
\$5,050

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
64	75	69	208	-8

**2** **SUPAMAS SANGCHAN**  
Thailand  
\$5,050

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	72	68	208	-8

**5** **PLOYCHOMPOO WILAIRUNGRUENG**  
Thailand  
\$2,550

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
68	69	72	209	-7



**TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS GOLF CLUB**  
*Talisay, Batangas*

Located amidst a dense forest 1,000 feet above Taal Lake, the wind-swept Midlands Golf Club boasts of a championship golf course with a picture-perfect view of Taal lake and volcano. It features rolling fairways with well-maintained greens of Bermuda and Tidwarf grasses. Its fairways are also aligned with different types of abundant trees.



# NO HAPPY ENDINGS

PARTY GOLFERS OPEN • OCTOBER 3-5, 2018

Superal and co. sputter in first LPGT int'l foray



**Chia-Yen Wu (AM)**  
CHAMPION

	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
TWN	67	71	71	209	-	-

Taiwanese amateur Chia Yen Wu soaks it in, including from a pail-full of water, after stunning the pros with a one-stroke victory to become the youngest winner of TLPGA.



1 (From left) Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc. general manager Colo Ventosa, Party Golfers CEO Peggy Lin, Taiwan LPGA chair Mei-Chi Cheng and Party Golfers president Semi Wang give the thumbs-up sign to the staging of the first LPGT-TLPGA Tour-sanctioned tournament in Taiwan. 2 Mia Piccio finally puts it all together, albeit too late, with a closing three-under 69 3 Rookie pro Daniella Uy believes her Party Golfers stint will make a better, stronger player 4 Falling short of her title bid despite a fiery, Babe Liu still laughs her way to the bank by pocketing the top \$18,000 purse. 5 Cyna Rodriguez and Princess Superal brim with confidence as they spearhead the PhI's campaign in the first LPGT co-sanctioned tournament in Taiwan. 6 Marvi Monsalve finds the pro-am side, which she topped with three others, far too different from the tournament proper.

**THEY CAME to Taiwan in high spirits – the Party Golfers Ladies Open being the first Ladies Philippine Golf Tour co-sanctioned event abroad with the Taiwan LPGA. But all five Pinays came out of the \$100,000 championship trampled, crushed by the brutal winds and a talented field led by an amateur and junior high student.**

But Princess Superal, Cyna Rodriguez and Mia Piccio along with Daniella Uy and Marvi Monsalve relished the chance to play and slug it out with the top players of the TLPGA on a course as tough and exacting as the National Golf Country Club in Miaoli County.

"It's quite an experience. It's a different kind of challenge. We had chances but just couldn't make the putts in the end," said Superal, who with Rodriguez groped for putting form in the final round and missed a Top 10 finish in the event ruled by the young Chia-Yen Wu.

Playing in calmer condition after battling it through brutal winds in the first two days, Superal and Rodriguez found the undulating surface too tough to read, impeding their final round charge.

Superal muffed a number of makeable birdie putts and flubbed short par-putts that marred her closing one-over 73. That also typified the Pinays' struggle on the unreceptive greens.

"The greens are really difficult to read," said Superal who ended up with 34 putts for a two-birdie, three-bogey effort for joint 16th.

Rodriguez made quite a surge with a 72 in wild conditions in the second day to fuel her title hopes. But she groped for 37 putts and made five bogeys and a double bogey against a birdie for a 78 that dropped her to joint 39th at 233.

But Wu showed up the elite pro field, finishing with a second straight 71 and nipping a charging Babe Liu by one to win the crown on a seven-under 209 total.

"I was nervous but told myself to hold up to avoid a playoff," said Wu, who became the youngest TLPGA champion at 14.

Liu sizzled sans the wind from fifth-to-last flight, ramming in four straight birdies from No. 2 for a 31 then adding three more birdies at the back to shoot the tournament-

best eight-under 64 for a 210. But she fell short of foiling Wu although the TLPGA's No. 5 pocketed the top purse of \$18,000 with the junior high student taking the championship crown.

After barely making the cut, Piccio showed her true worth and fired a 69, charging from the back of the pack to joint 35th at 222.

Uy, meanwhile, carded a 73 for a 224 for joint 45th while Monsalve missed the cut but earlier teamed up with three others to win the pro-am side of the event.

All told, the event proved to be a huge success with the LPGT looking forward to holding a second tournament abroad and the Pinay aces vowing to rebound big-time and produce a happy ending the next time around.

## PRIZE MONEY \$100,000

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	Yu-Chiang HOU (Am)	TWN	72	75	67	214	-	-
7	Jackie CHULYA	THA	71	72	72	215	-	\$3,300
8	Jessica PENG	TWN	77	72	67	216	-	\$2,720
=	Chonlada CHAYANUN	THA	73	73	70	216	-	\$2,720
=	Meng-Chu CHEN	TWN	72	72	72	216	-	\$2,720
=	Yupaporn KAWINPAKORN	THA	73	72	71	216	-	\$2,720
=	Supamas SANGCHAN	THA	74	70	72	216	-	\$2,720
=	Pei-Lin YU	TWN	70	73	73	216	-	\$2,720

**I WAS NERVOUS BUT TOLD MYSELF TO HOLD UP TO AVOID A PLAYOFF**

**2** **BABE LIU**  
Taiwan  
\$18,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
73	73	64	210	-

**3** **SARANPORN LANGKULGASATTRIN**  
Thailand  
\$9,600

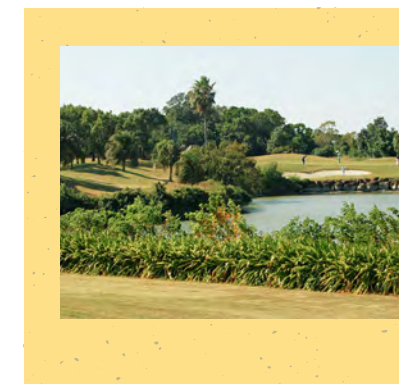
R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	75	66	211	-

**4** **RENUKA SUKSUKONT**  
Thailand  
\$5,800

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
69	77	66	212	-

**4** **SZU-HAN CHEN**  
Taiwan  
\$4,100

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
74	69	69	212	-



### NATIONAL GOLF COUNTRY CLUB Miaoli County, Taiwan

The National GCC is a great design with winding fairways stretched over a hilly course leaning towards the Taiwan Strait with three well-positioned lakes. Fairways are carpeted with Bermuda grass and its sleek putting surface are covered with champion turf, which is also being used in the US and European Tours. Main challenge, though, are the brutal winds that could blow one's bid at any given time.





# STUNNING FORM MEETS SUPERB FUNCTION AT THE PREMIER GLOBAL GATEWAY FOR THE FINEST PHILIPPINE FURNITURE.

**Manila International Container Terminal**  
the Philippines' most modern container  
port, and one of the world's top 40, is the  
primary gateway for the Philippines' export  
champions—such as some of the world's most  
coveted furniture masterpieces.



*The Philippines' largest and most modern container terminal, MICT is globally recognized as one of Asia's earliest successful Public-Private Partnerships in the marine ports sector. It is the flagship operation in ICTSI Group.*

A deep heritage of excellence, coupled with a strong forward vision, mark both the Philippine furniture industry and the MICT. One of Asia's earliest port privatization success stories, MICT today solidly anchors the future-ready Philippine ports system. A vital cog in the burgeoning intra-ASEAN and Asia-global trade, the country's leading port remains a key partner in keeping the flourishing Philippine furniture industry in the global spotlight.



Headquartered in Manila, Philippines, International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) is in the business of port development, management, and operations. Independent of shipping, logistics, or consignee-related interests, ICTSI works transparently with all port community stakeholders. Operating in both developed and emerging market economies—in Asia Pacific, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa—ICTSI has received global acclaim for its port privatization partnerships with governments.



**HEAD OFFICE**  
ICTSI Administration Bldg., Manila International Container Terminal  
MICT South Access Road, Port of Manila, Manila 1012, Philippines  
☎ +632 245 4101 📠 +632 245 2245 ✉ info@ictsi.com  
www.ictsi.com

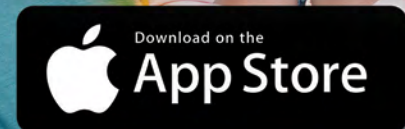
ARGENTINA • AUSTRALIA • BRAZIL • CHINA • COLOMBIA • CROATIA • D.R. CONGO • ECUADOR • GEORGIA • HONDURAS • INDONESIA • IRAQ • MADAGASCAR • MEXICO • PAKISTAN • PAPUA NEW GUINEA • PHILIPPINES • POLAND

Have the power to access your Meralco  
account wherever, whenever with

# MERALCO ONLINE



Download Meralco Mobile beta app now



or log in to Meralco Online beta at [www.meralco.com.ph](http://www.meralco.com.ph)

MORE POWER TO YOU







TABUENA CLIPS THAI ACE IN SUDDEN DEATH

# CENTENNIAL CHAMP


PRIZE MONEY \$600,000

PHL	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
	73	72	73	71	289	1	\$108,000

SOLAIRE PHILIPPINE OPEN  
100 YEARS

## FINAL RANKING of the SOLAIRE PHILIPPINE OPEN

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
=	PAEZ, NICOLAS	USA	73	71	77	75	296	8	\$22,290
7	RATES, JOENARD	PHL	76	74	75	72	297	9	\$15,900
=	FUNG, NICHOLAS	MAS	72	78	71	76	297	9	\$15,900
9	KILLEN, MATT	ENG	74	76	75	73	298	10	\$12,840
10	QUIBAN, JUSTIN	PHL	75	76	73	75	299	11	\$10,965
=	SWANGARUNPORN, PIYA	THA	77	72	74	76	299	11	\$10,965

**2**  **MEESAWAT, PROM**  
Philippines  
\$66,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
70	73	74	72	289	1

**3**  **VAN DER VALK, GUIDO**  
Netherlands  
\$37,800

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
73	72	74	74	293	5

**4**  **CHOI, MICHAEL**  
Australia  
\$30,000

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
76	75	71	73	295	7

**5**  **LEWTON, STEPHEN**  
England  
\$22,290

R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	78	75	72	296	8

**WHENEVER A golf discussion veers into the Philippine Open, Miguel Tabuena will always be mentioned.**

Maybe because at 21 he ruled the rain-shortened 2015 edition at Hacienda Luisita in Tarlac for his first triumph on the Asian Tour.

Perhaps because he's only one of five Filipino multiple titlists of the region's oldest National Open.

Most likely because Tabuena happens to be the 2018 Solaire Centennial Open champion when it was staged at The Country Club in Laguna.

It's a distinct honor no other local golfer can claim. Not even 12-time Philippine Open champion Larry Montes, six-time titlist Celestino Tugot, three-time winner Bantam Ben Arda, or the still active two-time victor Frankie Minoza.

That Tabuena was able to join these all-time greats in stirring fashion further accentuated the achievement.

Considered a goner after incurring a two-stroke penalty in the third round for allegedly hitting a leaf on his backswing on the bunker of hole No. 11.

So, instead of a one-under-par 71, Tabuena got a 73, allowing Thai Prom Meesawat to keep a one-shot lead heading to the fourth round.

Though upset by the development, Tabuena kept his composure and shot a final round 71 to force sudden death against Meesawat, who carded 74, as they wound up with similar 289 totals.

**I THANK GOD AND I'M REALLY HAPPY TO PUT MY NAME NOT ONLY ONCE BUT TWICE ON THIS TROPHY, ESPECIALLY THIS BEING THE OPEN'S 100TH**

On their return to the 18th, Tabuena barely missed the green and putted to within tap-in. Unable to get out of a bad lie in three, the Thai conceded and the former child prodigy was an Open champion again.

"I've never been mad going to the final round and I was thinking it would have been different without the two-stroke

penalty. But it turned out (infraction) wasn't enough," said Tabuena, who pocketed \$108,000.

"I thank God and I'm really happy to put my name not only once but twice on this trophy, especially this being the Open's 100th."

Of course, Tabuena's triumph against adversity was hardly surprising.

As a toddler he was already swinging clubs, at 16 he took the 2010 Guangzhou Asian Games silver medal, qualified for the 2016 US Open, and became the first Filipino to compete in the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics.

In the rain-shortened 2015 Philippine Open, Tabuena scored a final round 66 to tame the field.

There was no Philippine Open in 2016, but in the 2017 edition won by Briton Steve Lewton, also at TCC, Tabuena emerged the best Filipino finisher, sharing fifth to eighth places.

Clearly, Tabuena is laden with talent.

He's bound to win more crowns and it would hardly be surprising if another one or a few more will come by way of the Philippine Open.



**1**Angelo Que must've pointed to a wrong direction with two 75s as his best scores in four days on a course where he reigned thrice in The Country Club Invitational. **2** Bunker visits in the second round told heavily on Steve Lewton's back-to-back title drive. **3** Two-time champion Frankie Minoza (right) doesn't need to look far to find out his place after an 87-76 in the first two rounds with 2012 titlist Mardan Mamat blowing his own bid after sharing the opening round lead with 70. **4** Thai Prom Meesawat fails to stop Miguel Tabuena's surge in sudden death. **5** For Tabuena, happiness is winning the country's premier championship the hard way and being with his family and supporters.



# DOTTIE'S DATE WITH *Destiny*

**MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, she wrote on Facebook at the end of the season. A two-word post. A lifetime dream fulfilled.**

And Dottie Ardina knows a tougher grind awaits her in the prestigious LPGA Tour in 2019 following her sterling performance in the Symetra Tour with five runner-up finishes in 17 starts.

*"Grabe, dugo't pawis (It's blood and sweat). It's been a long journey,"* said Ardina.

A journey that took close to 20 years to complete which began when she started tagging along with her father in rounds of golf at the Canlubang Old Course.

Patience, determination and unrelenting hard work and passion for the game brought father and daughter from that quaint course to the very best venues around the world and to the severest of golf tests.

*"After five years, I finally got my full card and I dedicate this success to my parents who never stopped giving me inspiration, love and support,"* she said.

But it wasn't easy. Although she had an impressive amateur career that included eight world titles – three in the Junior World and five in US Kids and gold medal in the SEA Games and eighth place finish in the World Amateur in Argentina, she labored and toiled through in the first two years in the Symetra Tour and limited stints in the LPGA Tour on conditional status.

She never lost heart. Steeped in experience in the cut-throat pro league after playing with the world's best, Ardina set out focused on the task ahead as the 2018 Symetra season unfolded.

*"When I decided to go on Symetra full time, I set a personal goal of six figures. Symetra Tour this year is filled with a lot of great players who can play in the LPGA level. It means a lot to me,"* she said.

It also meant that she had to skip some LPGA events and a major in the Evian Championship in France since it meant missing out on four to five events in the Symetra circuit.

*"I made a tough decision to withdraw from LPGA events that I was eligible to play in. I think I really made a good decision to stay and get my full card for 2019 which is good for 15 events,"* said Ardina.

Making a fast start early in the tour made her No. 1 in the ranking in the Volvik Race to LPGA Card and with four tournaments to play she had already secured the first of 10 LPGA full cards offered in the developmental tour.

It was an amazing turnaround for the scrappy Filipina, whose single season high earnings of over \$97,000 was more than her total earnings in her first four years in the LPGA farm circuit.

Now it's on to the big league where Ardina is expected to face the cream of the world's women's pro golf and do better as an accomplished player with a wondrous putting touch and an unwavering faith in her game plus mental toughness developed through years of training, tests and challenges from a demanding father.

*"My dad has always been there for me. He taught me how to be tough and lots of hard determination since I was 5-6 years old. All his screaming/yelling while teaching me helped me a lot to get a strong mental game,"* she said, adding that she drew wisdom from what her father said: *"Golf is a never-ending lesson that even Tiger Woods struggles in the game. Keep working hard and it will pay off."*

It did pay off.



In the last Symetra Tour, she was under-par 30 times with a record 63 at the Alaqua Country Club in Longwood, Florida and ranked second in putts per green-in-regulation and putting average and in scoring average (70.10), capping her impressive season by finishing second in earnings (\$97,822).

She nailed the Symetra Swift Award for being No. 1 in the Volvik Race for the Card at the halfway point of the season. And she's bringing her splendid form to the new LPGA season, brimming with a high-level of confidence although she has to be physically fit to withstand the rigors of the premier tour.

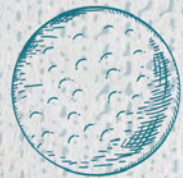
*"I think I have to improve my body condition (workout) and prepare for long busy schedule. I'd also like to improve my approach shots and my length,"* she said.

She hasn't scored a breakthrough win in the pro field despite close finishes, losing by a shot in her five runner-up finishes.

But Dottie Ardina is ready to tee it up in her date with destiny.

*'AFTER FIVE YEARS, I FINALLY GOT MY FULL CARD AND I DEDICATE THIS SUCCESS TO MY PARENTS WHO NEVER STOPPED GIVING ME INSPIRATION, LOVE AND SUPPORT'*





# LIVING UP TO PROMISE

FORMER WHIZ KID TABS 2 BIG WINS, VOWS MORE IN '19



**"HOPEFULLY, BIG THINGS, MORE VICTORIES. I LOVE BEING ABLE TO BRING HONOR TO THE COUNTRY IN WHATEVER LITTLE WAY I CAN."**

**THERE IS little doubt that Miguel Tabuena is one of the best Filipino golfers around, as proven by his two big victories in 2018.**

Rather than rest on his growing list of achievements, however, he continues to put in the work as he strives to make sure his star continues to rise not only in the local scene but also abroad.

"Hopefully, big things," was how the 24-year-old started to summarize the goals he has set, for himself in 2019.

"More victories," added Tabuena. "I love being able to bring honor to the country in whatever little way I can."

He has already done so in big ways and in so short a time.

In 2018 alone, Tabuena started the year by scoring a memorable win in the Centennial Solaire Philippine Open, marking the second time he topped Asia's oldest golf championship, and then ended it by copping the Queen's Cup of the Asian Tour in Thailand.

Those victories are both so special for him that he still couldn't make up his mind on which is sweeter.

"For the Philippine Open, I admit there was more pressure as it was my National Open. So I'm so grateful to have come out on top," he said.

"At the Queen's Cup, I came from a missed cut the week before. I was adjusting and getting used to something new in my game and the week before the Queen's Cup it just wasn't clicking. I stuck to it in Thailand and saw the results and it paid off.

"Both victories were sweet. I can't really say one was better than the other," Tabuena said.

It's what happened in-between that gnaws at him, however, showing the competitive fire that drives him.

"I think I had a pretty up-and-down season, considering a number of missed cuts," he noted.

"I think I had too many missed cuts. I know that it's all part of the process and bad games come, but I'd like to aim for a season with no missed cuts, more top 10 or top 5 finishes."

One thing that should point him in that direction is by continuing to work on the areas which should help his game.

"A lot of practice – not just time on my game, but on fitness as well," he said. "I started regularly going for fitness training with my coach Cris Palanca and I saw the difference in my game."

It's not just the daily fitness regimen, but also range and course sessions with coach Joel Altea.

"I spend a lot of time on the range and on the putting green," said Tabuena. "I also spend a lot of time working on my fitness as this has proven to be very important in going the distance in a tournament."

And then there's approaching each tournament with a dialed-in mindset.

"I approach every game with the belief that I can perform very well, even win. I've always thought that it's the best way to approach it so

that I am not playing catch-up from the very start," said Tabuena.

"I manage my expectations in the sense that when I know I am working on something new, I take that into consideration and I give myself more room for errors."

That has helped him quickly get over any miscue he may commit in a tournament and something he wants to impart to other golfers as well.

"This is something that I have had to sit down with mind coaches about and work through," he said. "I think it's good for athletes to have access to this because it helps you stay more balanced throughout the game... and golf is a long game."

The groundwork has been laid down for Tabuena as an amateur and started getting more polished when he set out as a pro in the local tour put up by the International Container Terminal and Services, Inc.

"The ICTSI tour provides us professionals with chances to showcase our skills week-in and week-out and the competition just keeps getting better every year," he offered. "So, having played on the tour for multiple years now, I can say that it has set me up and built my confidence for bigger stages."

There's also the additional motivation of continuing to make his family proud.

"I draw most inspiration and motivation from my family. They keep me grounded and give me something to come home to. Win or lose, nothing changes. I'm so grateful to God for the team he has given me," he said.

Conquering the global stage is what's really on Tabuena's crosshairs.

"Now that I have a two-year exemption on the Asian Tour I can focus some of my schedule on web.com and in qualifying for the PGA Tour. I am also looking forward to playing some events on the European Tour," he said.

"I will play most of the schedule of the Asian Tour, with a few in the European Tour and hopefully I can get into some in the US, if I can," he added, while also pointing out he hasn't forgotten the local tours as well.

"The PGT and PGTA are on my schedule as well," he said. "Whenever I am in town and the schedule permits I will definitely play."

*elle*



*elle*





**'WHEN THEY CAUGHT US ON NO. 17, WE DIDN'T PANIC. WE BELIEVE IN OURSELVES, THAT WE CAN DO IT. AND WE MADE IT'**



**J. Carlos/  
D. Padilla**  
CHAMPION

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
69	74	76	219	+3	P360,000

Jobim Carlos (left) and amateur partner DJ Padilla whoop it up to celebrate a successful partnership in a victory that somehow hinted at the portent of things to come in the season for the talented pro.

**NATIONAL PRO-AM**

# CLASS ACT

*Carlos-Padilla shows poise at crunch time to foil rivals*

**HOW ONE handles pressure often spells the difference between victory and defeat.**

Just ask Jobim Carlos and DJ Padilla, whose new partnership did not prevent them from showing poise in the crunch that helped net them a championship in the Delimondo National Pro-am at the Splendido Taal Golf Club in Laurel, Batangas.

It was by no means an easy route to victory as the duo not only had to contend with the wind-raked, up-and-down layout but also the challenge of a crack field that boasts of some of the finest shotmakers in the land lured by the P360,000 purse for the winning pro and gifts and bragging rights for his amateur partner.

In the end, however, Carlos and Padilla prevailed by simply keeping their wits about them even after they blew an early three-stroke lead and got caught by the pairs of Jet Mathay-Alex Etter and Jelbert Gamolo-Rupert Zaragosa going to the final hole.

"When they caught us on No. 17, we didn't panic," said Carlos. "We believe in ourselves, that we can do it. And we made it."

That confidence sure did come handy and steadied the pair on what was otherwise a wobbly windup.

Carlos set up the one-stroke win by hitting his approach to 10 feet of the cup. After Padilla missed the birdie putt, Carlos tapped in for par which proved enough.

It was the first victory in three years as a pro for Carlos, although in team play, and it was quite a leap from his finish at joint 12th last year while paired with Lester Lagman.

The confidence gained from it should also serve Padilla, who failed to participate in the previous year's inaugurals at Mt. Malarayat, in good stead. Ditto for the 25-year-old Carlos as he shifts his focus on his campaigns in both the PGT Asia and PGT circuit.

The two pairs which came closest to foiling their bid could not handle the pressure the way Carlos and Padilla did.

Mathay and Etter could have forced a playoff, but the former flubbed his par putt from eight feet while Gamolo and

Zaragosa struggled off the mound and ended up with a double-bogey.

Expecting the moment but living it out are entirely two different things, as Mathay admitted.

"I knew it will go down-to-the-wire up to the last hole," he said. "Though I missed the putt, I had a good feel, but it didn't roll in."

Worse off were the other duos in the P2 million event, including the tandem of Tonton Asistio and Jude Eustaquio, who were gunning for back-to-back crowns but could only finish tied for ninth with three other pairs.

Ironically, it was Eustaquio, golf director at Forest Hills, who initially laid out what was in store for the 54-hole championship.

"Pressure is inherent in the game. The expectation to do well certainly adds anxiety," he said before the tourney started.

"But we are lucky that we are very comfortable with each other. I just want us to have fun as we compete out there. It is always a privilege to play and compete together."

It was the Carlos-Padilla tandem that displayed that mind-set to the fullest, however, as they immediately opened up with a 69 for a two-stroke lead over the Zaragosa-Gamolo pair.

"We played steady and had an almost trouble-free round," said Carlos. "The wind was strong and we're lucky to finish with a 69."

They needed all the luck they could muster as the pressure readily became unbearable right in the second round when the Gamolo-Zaragosa pair, playing in an earlier flight, closed out with back-to-back birdies to draw level.

Good thing the Carlos-Padilla tandem came up with a late birdie to regain the lead and head to the final 18 holes with a one-shot advantage.

"We expect it to be tough and we're happy to stay on top," said Carlos.

As it turned out, the pair would manage to carry that show of character over to the final round.



1 Jet Mathay and Alex Etter play beautiful music even on the golf course, barely missing snatching the crown 2 Jelbert Gamolo and Rupert Zaragosa celebrate their solid start but lost grip of their game in the next two rounds 3 Golf partnership or friendship could go beyond for Gines Solomon (right) and Marlon Dizon 4 Marvi Monsalve and partner Mikha Fortuna switch vests with buddies-cum-rivals Chihiro Ikeda and Sam Dizon 5 Tontitis Asistio and Jude Eustaquio figure what went wrong in their title-retention drive 6 Jhonnell Ababa and Jaemin Koo face tall odds in their title bid, including big trunk of trees.

**2**

**J. MATHAY/  
A. ETTER**  
P250,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
76	69	75	220	4

**3**

**J. GAMOLO/  
R. ZARAGOSA**  
P140,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
71	73	77	221	5

**4**

**R. ABARING/  
J. ALBA**  
P115,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
74	75	73	222	6

**5**

**M. BIBAT/  
J. YAMYAMIN**  
P89,000

R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR
76	75	72	223	7

**PRIZE MONEY P2,000,000**

Rank	Names	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
6	D. VILLANUEVA/M. OTAKE	76	77	71	224	8	P78,000
7	R. PACTOLERIN/J. SALAHOG	78	77	70	225	9	P67,000
8	J. HUERVA/J. MAMARIL	77	73	77	227	11	P56,000
9	I. ALIDO/M. GUIANG	79	75	74	228	12	P43,750
=	T. ASISTIO/J. EUSTAQUIO	75	78	75	228	12	P43,750
=	JS PARK/J. MAMARIL	73	79	76	228	12	P43,750
=	R. BAYRON/M. KO	76	75	77	228	12	P43,750



# ANGEL'S ADVOCATE

NEVER LOSING FAITH IN HIS GAME,  
QUE SNAPS LONG SPELL IN JAPAN

**COUNT ON Angelo Que to end a long dry spell in grand fashion.**

Winless in any of the golf tours around the world over the last few years, the Filipino ace finally struck at the TOP Cup Tokai Classic with a gutsy final-round 66 at the Miyoshi Country Club's West Course in Miyoshi, Aichi.

Que won just months before his 40th birthday. And he did it in style, putting together four sub-70 rounds for a 17-under 271 total to beat a field that included former US PGA champion Y. E. Yang and compatriot Juvic Pagunsan, who had a share of the lead through three rounds.

He was amply rewarded. The win was his first since the last of his three Asian Tour victories at the Worldwide Holdings Selangor Masters in 2010.

It was also his first since earning his Japan Tour card four years ago, becoming just the second Filipino after Frankie Miñoza to win on the lucrative tour.

The bonus? A P10-million (Y22 million) windfall.

No wonder that at the turn of the year, the two-time Philippine Amateur champion was still grinning from ear to ear over that one October victory that turned a so-so 2018 campaign into great one.

"I didn't have a great start (in 2018), didn't win locally but at least I won one abroad. All in all, still a great year," said Que. "Actually, after the second round, I had a good

feeling but of course I try not to think about it until it was really there on the last few holes."

What changed in that one tournament?

"Putting, that was my best putting stat week for the year," said Que, who throughout his career has distinguished himself as one of the longest hitters on tour.

Que now draws confidence from that Japan breakthrough as he leaps into the 2019 season. He plans to scale back on his tournament schedule after turning 40 in December but not on his ambitions, saying he enters every event with an eye on winning.

"I'm very happy and pleased to have won my first title in Japan. This only means that I did it once and I can do it again," said Que, thanking his sponsors like ICTSI whose "support gave me the opportunity to compete abroad and on a different level."

"Same as always, I'll be planning diligently my schedule (in 2019) to play in Japan, Asia and locally and making sure that I don't play too much. I'm not getting any younger."

Que has always been the type of player that plays to his strengths. And he isn't the overly ambitious type who aims for the moons and the stars.

But the ever-smiling pro isn't closing the door on a US foray this late in his career.

"I'll just focus on playing well in Japan, Asia and locally. If the opportunity arises, then maybe I'll go and try," he said when asked on a possible shot at a US PGA campaign.

Special as the Japan Tour breakthrough may be, it isn't at the top of Que's list. His Philippine Open win back in 2008 is right there at the top.

"Of course, the Philippine Open," Que said, breaking into a smile. "Winning your National Open again and again is special."



**'I'M VERY HAPPY AND PLEASED TO HAVE WON MY FIRST TITLE IN JAPAN. THIS ONLY MEANS THAT I CAN DO IT AGAIN'**



# UNRIVALLED

A third straight 'Best Host Venue' award caps the Robert Trent Jones Sr.-designed layout's milestone golden year



## VENUE OF THE YEAR

LUISITA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

**THERE MUST be something in Luisita that makes the Robert Trent Jones Sr. layout tick for the country's top pros – not just once or twice but for the third straight season.**

And it's winning the Best Host Venue award in record fashion couldn't come at a better time.

That gem of a layout in Tarlac has been a popular stop in the north since its completion in 1968. Fifty years later, it remains as one of the most-liked, if not sought-after golfing hubs outside of Metro Manila.

It has been passed on for generations that it was Jones Sr.'s idea to have a "friendly" yet challenging course. And the new owners, who acquired the golf club back in 2015, made sure his legacy will live.

So it didn't come as a surprise when the Philippine Golf Tour awarded Luisita the 2018 Best Course of the Year honors the third time around after it successfully hosted two regular LPGT/PGT tournaments, the PGT Asia Qualifying Tournament, and two more PGT Asia events.

A staunch supporter of the pro league, Luisita staged the 2015 Philippine Open, then still co-sanctioned by the Asian Tour. Since then, it has been a ready venue for the three ICTSI-sponsored circuits, thanks to the club president

Martin Lorenzo and the efficient Luisita Golf and Country Club board.

The support to the PGT is actually part of Luisita's aim and commitment to regain its glory days on the country's golfing landscape, according to club manager Jeric Hechanova.

"That was the battle cry even before we celebrated our golden year. The PGT and PGT Asia are an integral part of our program and we will maintain that stance in the years to come as we continue our journey and thrust to make Luisita the best golf club," he said.

Just what makes Luisita click among the pros?

"It's our 101 percent support. The instruction is to help them in any way we can, to lessen their loads, in defraying expenses. We know how hard

it is to be a pro tour campaigner," said Hechanova, who has more than 30 years experience in the industry.

For starters, Luisita opens up its country club hall and transforms its large area as a makeshift, hotel-like room where the players can sleep after a tough round, thus saving a lot on accommodation expenses.

Likewise, Luisita is probably the only club which provides free meals – breakfast and lunch to the touring pros. In fact, it even hosts a welcome dinner on special occasions, most specifically after the pro-am side event, whose concept was actually started by Luisita during its inauguration in 1968.

"We have been pro-player from the beginning. This kind of help is very significant because when things are

taken care of, they only have to think of golf when they get to the course.

"We hope the other clubs on the PGT schedule likewise do the same," he added.

Luisita, which according to the great Billy Casper was the best course he has ever played, also paved the way for the construction of the Robert Trent Jones Jr.-designed courses in the late 70s, including Alabang, Calatagan and Canlubang, with the Sta. Elena, Pueblo de Oro, Ayala Greenfield and the Summit Point golf clubs following suit in the 90s.

"My dad was so proud of Luisita. When he saw the land, he fell in love with it. Immediately, he was able to create a vision to turn it into something special," the younger Jones said in a previous interview.

He recalled that he was about 23 or 24 years old when his dad brought him to Hacienda Luisita. What he saw was like a gem of a course – newly dressed with Tifton 328 grass and par-3 holes that were shaped like gentle curves of a woman's body.

"Don Pedro Cojuangco, the patriarch, loved it too. He was so impressed with the design, especially with how the abundant natural water around the course was utilized to perfection," he said.

Luisita has 12 of 18 holes with water hazards while two of them are signature holes, No. 8 and 17, the dreaded par-3 with a huge lake guarding the green, which more often than not, makes or breaks one's title bid.



# BEST OF THE BEST 2018

Jobim Carlos  
PGT ORDER OF MERIT WINNER



Princess Superal  
LPGT ORDER OF MERIT WINNER



Order of Merit winners Jobim Carlos (upper left photo) and Princess Superal pose with PGTI executive director Nartene Soriano, and with Jeric Hechanova (above) of Luisita Golf and Country Club, the top venue for the third straight year, during awards rites of the 2018 PGT/LPGT season.

The country's leading campaigners (left photo) in the PGT and LPGT share a light moment after the awards ceremonies of the 2018 PGT/LPGT season at The Country Club.



The Philippine Golf Tour, Southeast Asia's largest local golfing circuit and the Philippines' premier battleground for its professional players, is backed by global port operator International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI).

ICTSI has been supporting Philippine golf since 2005 when the Philippine government tapped ICTSI as one of its private sector partners in the hosting of the 23rd Southeast Asian Games (SEAG) where ICTSI sponsored and co-organized the golf event of the Games at the Country Club in Santa Rosa, Laguna. After the Philippine SEAG, ICTSI continued supporting the country's top amateur players through an amateur golf program, and a junior golf program together with the Junior Golf Foundation of the Philippines.



The brands of the adidas Group complement each other in a unique way to help athletes perform better, play better, feel better.



Taylor Made Makers of high performance golf clubs, clothes and gear, Taylor Made has a long history of quality and reliability. Their innovative products are the number one choice of the best golfers in the world.



Srixon Used by top PGA golfers like Vijay Singh and Karrie Webb, Srixon balls provide better flight for a golfer's drive. Together with Srixon golf clubs, golfers have seen better scores and performance on the fairway and in the driving range.



Custom Clubmakers Servicing golfers since 1998, Custom Clubmakers is the go-to clubfitter of pros and amateurs worldwide.



Champion Detergent, one of the country's top detergent brands, has been providing superior quality products to uncompromising Filipino households since 1977. Celebrating its 40th year this 2017, it continues to serve the Filipino consumers beyond laundry detergents with its expanded portfolio that includes liquid fabric conditioner and dishwashing liquid.



Sharp Makers of high quality appliances, Sharp has been in the Philippines for the last 28 years. Sharp has stood toe-to-toe with the world's biggest manufacturers and has matched them in quality and service.



Pacsports leads the way in distributorship and licensee of lifestyle brands and differentiates itself from other golf distributors with an extensive network and exclusive rights to golf products in the Philippines. Its vision is to remain a recognized leader in the industry by providing our customers with top-of-the-line products and bringing experiences beyond customer satisfaction.



Summit Natural Drinking Water is the official bottled water of Philippine Olympic athletes. It has helped aspiring Filipino athletes maintain superior concentration and athletic edge with minerals that boost their hydration level.



Founded in 1994, KZG the #1 Custom ProLine™, offers equipment available only in the finest retail facilities with authorized KZG professional fitters on staff. KZG's program of partnering with only the top professional fitters to fit its award-winning equipment has catapulted KZG to a position of prominence in customized golf equipment. KZG's comprehensive selection of premium golf equipment includes the finest drivers, woods, irons, wedges and putters, in addition to a wide variety of accessories and apparel.



# ORDER OF MERIT

## PGT EVENTS

1	CARLOS, JOBIM	P2,487,083.33	14	LAM, JAMES RYAN	P697,517.86	27	VILAIRATANA, PETE	P351,595.83
2	ABABA, JHONNEL	P1,366,375.00	15	ENGINO, ALBIN	P659,260.00	28	SINFUEGO, RICHARD	P347,291.67
3	KIM, JOO HYUNG	P1,361,500.00	16	KEONINH, LEXUS	P627,625.00	29	PUCAY, MARS	P308,200.60
4	VAN DER VALK, GUIDO	P1,268,642.86	17	STOJANOVSKI, PETER	P579,712.50	30	ROSALES, GERALD	P303,111.20
5	MONDILLA, CLYDE	P1,134,233.93	18	BIBAT, MICHAEL	P564,817.86	31	VILLANUEVA, DINO	P296,625.00
6	BALASABAS, JERSON	P1,103,416.67	19	JARAULA, REYMON	P563,643.34	32	ABAÑO, JOHVANIE	P287,487.50
7	BAYRON, JAY	P1,053,519.53	20	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	P556,450.00	33	AUNZO, FERDIE	P284,962.50
8	LASCUÑA, TONY	P987,366.67	21	VILLACENCIO, ARNOLD	P528,304.17	34	TAKAHASHI, KEISUKE	P274,266.66
9	PAEZ, NICOLAS	P925,566.67	22	SALAHOG, NILO	P454,335.00	35	ALIDO, IRA CHRISTIAN	P259,846.43
10	STEWART, TIM	P832,083.33	23	MENOR, RENE	P443,360.00	36	MARABE, ROLANDO, JR.	P245,822.50
11	QUIBAN, JUSTIN	P776,036.19	24	JAHNS, KEANU	P382,109.53	37	BAYRON, RUFINO	P241,096.43
12	RATES, JOENARD	P758,541.67	25	FERNANDO, MHARK	P359,925.00	38	DEPILO, RICO	P238,355.84
13	SALVADOR, ELMER	P708,595.84	26	FERNANDO, ANTHONY	P356,937.50	39	BISERA, RAMIL	P223,916.67

40	ECHAVEZ, PAUL	P197,862.50	55	MORI, ISSEI	P107,500.00	70	GRENVILLE-WOOD, JOSHUA	P34,450.00
41	ARCILLAS, ERWIN	P184,100.00	56	GONZALES, RAYMUND	P105,475.00	71	PARK, NATHAN	P34,300.00
42	PARK, JUN SUNG	P174,700.00	57	PAGUNSAN, REYNALDO	P91,916.67	72	MOCHITA, TAISEI	P34,300.00
43	HONG, CHARLES	P171,880.83	58	REYES, EDWARD	P90,650.00	73	TAKAHASHI, NAOYA	P31,250.00
44	PAYA VILA, SALVADOR	P162,733.33	59	NAKAJIMA, TORU	P89,500.00	74	GIACOMAZZI, DINO	P31,200.00
45	BERNIS, ROBERTO, JR.	P152,987.50	60	MAGADA, BENJIE	P89,025.00	75	JACKSON, DYLAN	P29,012.50
46	MORILLA, FRANCIS	P147,054.17	61	PACTOLERIN, ROBERT	P86,812.50	76	ASISTIO, TONTON	P28,987.50
47	SUMCAD, ORLAN	P142,162.50	62	GAMOLO, JELBERT	P70,850.00	77	QUIACHON, EBARRA	P28,162.50
48	SABAN, ELMER	P136,375.00	63	MATHAY, JET	P67,721.43	78	REMATA, ALLAN	P27,425.00
49	DUMANDAN, MARVIN	P135,116.67	64	DUNGCA, OMAR	P59,250.00	79	KANG, ANDY	P26,600.00
50	IKEDA, YU	P125,462.50	65	ETTER, KRIS	P58,891.67	80	VILLABER, PETER	P23,750.00
51	SHIN, MICAH	P122,500.00	66	LA O', COOKIE	P58,850.00	81	ALBANO, RICHNELL	P23,375.00
52	MIÑOZA, FRANKIE	P119,158.93	67	SUAREZ, JOSEPH	P45,200.00	82	MIKI, RYOMA	P21,500.00
53	ARBOLE, ART	P110,258.33	68	SUDO, YUTA	P44,275.00	83	OSABEL, TEODORO LUCIO	P19,800.00
54	PARK, JUN HYEOK	P110,000.00	69	HWANG, MYUNG CHAL	P35,562.50	84	VILLARUZ, GENE	P19,000.00

## PGTA EVENTS

1	CARLOS, JOBIM	\$41,601.67	29	SUPUPRAMAI, POOSIT	\$7,066.67	57	FERNANDO, ANTHONY	\$3,111.50
2	ABABA, JHONNEL	\$32,352.50	30	MONDILLA, CLYDE	\$6,490.00	58	ORIDE, CORY	\$3,066.67
3	LAM, JAMES RYAN	\$25,083.33	31	SALAHOG, NILO	\$6,190.00	59	SONG, LEE	\$2,967.50
4	BAYRON, JAY	\$23,901.83	32	HONG, CHARLES	\$5,852.50	60	KOORATAPISAN, SUTIJET	\$2,960.00
5	JORDAN, DAMIEN	\$22,462.50	33	VAN DER VALK, GUIDO	\$5,548.33	61	VIITAKANGAS, SIMON	\$2,686.00
6	LASCUÑA, TONY	\$22,052.50	34	ENGINO, ALBIN	\$5,530.00	62	FERNANDO, MHARK	\$2,682.50
7	RATES, JOENARD	\$20,482.50	35	BERNIS, ROBERTO, JR.	\$4,990.00	63	KILLEN, MATT	\$2,660.00
8	O'TOOLE, JOHN MICHAEL	\$20,106.75	36	KEONINH, LEXUS	\$4,840.00	64	CHUNG, SYDNEY	\$2,600.00
9	GLEESON, DAVID	\$18,698.00	37	MUNSON, BRETT	\$4,776.00	65	PARK, NATHAN	\$2,553.33
10	PUTKONEN, TEEMU	\$17,155.00	38	LERVILAI, PASAVEE	\$4,645.00	66	PRADITTAN, PUK	\$2,490.00
11	STOJANOVSKI, PETER (MKD)	\$17,149.17	39	BAYRON, RUFINO	\$4,613.00	67	MATHAY, JET	\$2,375.00
12	SALAH, JOSHUA	\$16,912.50	40	VILLANUEVA, DINO	\$4,595.83	68	SULLIVAN, JACK	\$2,282.50
13	BIBAT, MICHAEL	\$15,941.67	41	PAEZ, NICOLAS	\$4,390.00	69	CHUENBOONNGAM, CHONLATIT	\$2,266.00
14	ARCILLAS, ERWIN	\$15,390.00	42	PUCAY, MARS	\$4,084.67	70	KIM, DAE WON	\$2,180.00
15	TANTIPOKHAKUL, NAMCHOK	\$14,152.50	43	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	\$4,058.33	71	COXON, NICHOLAS	\$2,055.00
16	KASKE, JANNE	\$13,938.75	44	VILAIRATANA, PETE	\$3,930.00	72	LEE, SANG	\$1,975.00
17	STEWART, TIM	\$13,163.33	45	VARAPORNKITTIRAT, NATCHANON	\$3,863.00	73	PACTOLERIN, ROBERT	\$1,839.00
18	SHIN, MICAH LAUREN	\$10,340.00	46	BECK, DARREN	\$3,746.67	74	HANSAPIBAN, SORACHUT	\$1,812.50
19	JAHNS, KEANU	\$10,333.75	47	DAVID, BENJAMIN	\$3,657.50	75	KEYSER, MATHIAM	\$1,690.00
20	ALIDO, IRA CHRISTIAN	\$10,157.33	48	MARABE, ROLANDO, JR.	\$3,560.00	76	TWYMAN, GEORGE	\$1,657.50
21	JACKSON, GRANT	\$10,090.42	49	VILLACENCIO, ARNOLD	\$3,494.00	77	ISSEI, MORI	\$1,575.00
22	KIM, JOOHYUNG	\$10,080.83	50	POLTHAI, TAWIT	\$3,386.67	78	DEPILO, RICO	\$1,570.00
23	RATTANAPHIBOONKIJ, VARANYU	\$8,970.00	51	PAYA VILA, SALVADOR	\$3,385.00	79	ROSALES, GERALD	\$1,530.00
24	SALVADOR, ELMER	\$8,817.50	52	AUNZO, FERDIE	\$3,360.00	80	PARK, JUN SUNG	\$1,500.00
25	ARTJANAWAT, WISUT	\$8,556.25	53	ECHAVEZ, PAUL	\$3,272.50	81	MENOR, RENE	\$1,275.00
26	QUIBAN, JUSTIN	\$8,015.83	54	KOW, ELKI (INA)	\$3,267.50	82	FERNANDES, RIGEL	\$1,243.33
27	BURANATANYARAT, ITTHIPAT	\$7,543.33	55	SAE-UENG, NIRUN	\$3,188.33	83	PITIMANA-AREE, PITIPAT	\$1,243.33
28	QUE, ANGELO	\$7,479.17	56	JARAULA, REYMON	\$3,145.00	84	ETTER, KRIS	\$1,190.00

## LPGT EVENTS

1	PRINCESS MARY SUPERAL	P1,150,183.33	27	CHOMMAPAT PONGTHANARAK	P127,982.50
2	PLOYCHOMPOO WILAIRUNGRUENG	P1,080,150.00	28	CHATPRAPA SIRIPRAKOB	P127,343.33
3	CHIHIRO IKEDA	P933,770.00	29	PUNPAKA PHUNTUMABAMRUNG	P114,918.42
4	YUPAPORN KAWINPAKORN	P641,907.08	30	MOOKHARIN LADGRATOK	P113,293.00
5	CYNA RODRIGUEZ	P638,583.33	31	KANYALAK PREDASUTTIJIT	P104,000.00
6	ONKANOK SOISUWAN	P533,517.50	32	JAN SOLEIL PUNZALAN	P85,900.00
7	CHONLADA CHAYANUN	P493,787.50	33	TRICHAT CHEENGLAB	P81,135.00
8	TIRANAN YOOPAN	P450,750.67	34	ANANYA VITAYAKONKOMOL	P78,875.00
9	PANNAPA POLNAMIN	P434,714.66	35	CHOEUN BANG	P68,500.00
10	SUPAKCHAYA PATTARANAKRUEANG	P383,000.00	36	MAJONIE PULUMBARIT	P66,500.00
11	MARVI MONSALVE	P339,066.67	37	SYLVIA TORRES	P57,500.00
12	THANUTTRA BOONRAKSASAT	P288,663.42	38	ALISARA WEDCHAKAMA	P52,862.50
13	PAULINE DEL ROSARIO	P277,066.50	39	DANIELLA UY	P47,902.99
14	GRETCHEN VILLACENCIO	P267,400.00	40	KANOKWAN YOSPAK	P36,250.00
15	AUNCHISA UTAMA	P258,755.83	41	PAKPRING DUANGCHAN	P32,333.33
16	SARUTTAYA NGAM-USAWAN	P248,043.00	42	GOONLACHA PAIBOONPONG	P31,250.00
17	PAVARISA YOKTUAN	P210,000.00	43	CHOUVAREST CHOURKITTISOPON	P29,750.00
18	DOTTIE ARDINA	P197,750.00	44	ANYA TANPINCO	P29,600.00
19	NUMA GULYANAMITTA	P180,495.49	45	PATTRAPRON KRATURURK	P27,500.00
20	PIMPADSORN SANGKAGARO	P172,767.99	46	ALEX ETTER	P23,125.00
21	SARAPORN CHAMCHOI	P167,177.50	47	LISA KANG	P20,625.00
22	AMOLKAN PHALAJIVIN	P156,875.00	48	HATHAIKARN WONGWAIKIIPHAISAL	P17,000.00
23	WANNASIRI SIRISAMPANT	P155,917.50	49	INTUON DETKHUM	P16,897.99
24	JARUPORN PALAKAWONG NA AYUTTHAYA	P137,375.00	50	CHITAWADEE DUANGCHAN	P15,500.00
25	SARINEE THITIRATANAKORN	P132,125.00	51	MADELEEN GROSSKOPF	P12,900.00
26	PIYATHIDA CHAIYAPAN	P131,500.92	52	CHAYUDA SINGHSUWAN	P11,750.00



# Redefine your ENTERPRISE EXPERIENCE

With emerging innovative technologies disrupting the business landscape, industries are faced with the challenge to rise above and stand the test of time.

PLDT Enterprise takes digital transformation to a whole new level, upholding its mission of empowering businesses to go beyond comfort zones. With its suite of industry-specific solutions, enterprises of all sizes can take control of their future and be fearless in their journey to success.

Lead the Change. Embrace the Revolution.



[www.pldtenterprise.com](http://www.pldtenterprise.com)

**SECURE THE FUTURE**

Banking, Financial Services & Insurance

**WORLD-CLASS SERVICE**

Smart Homes & Hospitality

**ESTABLISH YOUR BRAND OF SUCCESS**

Retail

**MAKE THE RIGHT CONNECTIONS**

Business Workplace

**LEAD BY EXAMPLE**

Government Services

**KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES**

Academe

# 2019 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE



**NOVEMBER 27-30**  
PGT Qualifying School (LOCAL)  
Splendido Taal Golf Club

**FEBRUARY 19-22**  
PGT Qualifying School (FOREIGN)  
Splendido Taal Golf Club

**APRIL 22 - 27**  
TCC Invitational  
The Country Club

**MAY 8 - 11**  
Delimondo National Pro-Am  
Splendido Taal Golf Club

**JUNE 5-8**  
Club Filipino de Cebu Invitational  
Club Filipino De Cebu

**JUNE 12-15**  
Bacolod Golf Challenge  
Bacolod Golf & Country Club

**JUNE 19-22**  
Negros Occidental Classic  
Negros Occidental Golf & Country Club

**JUNE 26-29**  
Iloilo Golf Challenge  
Iloilo Golf & Country Club

**AUGUST 7-10**  
Riviera Classic  
Riviera Golf & Country Club

**SEPTEMBER 11-14**  
Pueblo de Oro Championship  
Pueblo de Oro Golf & Country Club

**SEPTEMBER 18-21**  
Del Monte Championship  
Del Monte Golf Club

**SEPTEMBER 25-28**  
Rancho Palos Verdes Classic  
Rancho Palos Verdes Golf & Country Club

**OCTOBER 2-5**  
Apo Golf Invitational  
Apo Golf & Country Club

**NOVEMBER 6-9**  
Luisita Invitational  
Luisita Golf & Country Club



**OCTOBER 9-12, 2018**  
Camp John Hay Ladies Championship  
Camp John Hay Golf Club

**DECEMBER 4-6, 2018**  
Pradera Verde Ladies Classic  
Pradera Verde Golf & Country Club

**JANUARY 23-25**  
Beverly Place Ladies Classic  
Beverly Place Golf Club

**JANUARY 29-31**  
Splendido Ladies Classic  
Splendido Taal Golf Club

**MARCH 6-8**  
TCC Ladies Invitational (TLPGA)  
The Country Club

**MARCH 12-14**  
Manila Southwoods Ladies Championship  
The Manila Southwoods Golf & Country Club

**APRIL 10-12**  
TLPGA CO SANCTIONED  
Manila Golf (TBA)

**APRIL 24-26**  
Royal Northwoods Ladies Classic  
Royal Northwoods Golf Club

**MAY 15-17**  
Tagaytay Midlands Ladies Challenge  
Tagaytay Midlands Golf Club

**JULY 16-19**  
Pradera Verde Ladies Classic  
Pradera Verde Golf & Country Club

**JULY 23-26**  
Camp John Hay Ladies Championship  
Camp John Hay Golf Club\*

**AUGUST 28-30**  
Forest Hills Ladies Championship  
Forest Hills Golf & Country Club

**OCTOBER 9-11, 2018**  
Anvaya Cove Ladies Classic  
Anvaya Cove Golf & Sports Club



**JANUARY 16-19**  
Pradera Verde Classic  
Pradera Verde Golf & Country Club

**MARCH 27-30**  
Riviera Golf Challenge  
Riviera Golf & Country Club

**APRIL 3-6**  
Solaire Philippine Open  
The Country Club

**APRIL 9 - 12**  
PCTA Qualifying Tournament  
Luisita Golf & Country Club

**APRIL 15 - 18**  
Luisita Championship  
Luisita Golf & Country Club

**MAY 23-26**  
PGTA (Taiwan)  
CCK Golf Club, Taiwan

**MAY 29-JUNE 1**  
Forest Hills Championship  
Forest Hills Golf & Country Club\*

**JULY 3-6**  
Sherwood Hills Classic  
Sherwood Hills Golf Club

**JULY 10-13**  
Manila Southwoods Championship  
The Manila Southwoods Golf & Country Club

**AUGUST 14-17**  
Aboitiz Invitational  
The Orchard Golf & Country Club

**SEPTEMBER 26-29**  
PGTA (Taiwan)  
Nan Bao Golf Club, Taiwan

**OCTOBER 16-19**  
The Summit Point World 18 Challenge  
Summit Point Golf & Country Club

**OCTOBER 23-26**  
Central Azucarera de Tarlac Open  
Luisita Golf & Country Club



# ONE STANDARD EVERYWHERE, EVERY TIME:



## EXCELLENCE UNCONTAINED.

Established in 1988 in Manila, Philippines, International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) develops, manages and operates gateway ports in the Asia Pacific, Americas, Europe, Middle East and Africa.

Starting with the privatization of the Manila International Container Terminal, ICTSI's current diverse portfolio includes capacity expansion projects and greenfield investments in developed and emerging markets.

ICTSI is an acclaimed private sector partner of governments requiring high-performing, profitable ports.

More important is ICTSI's distinct neutrality. As an independent business with no shipping, logistics, or consignee-related interests, ICTSI offers the same level of service excellence to every port community stakeholder.



EXCELLENCE UNCONTAINED

#### HEAD OFFICE

ICTSI Administration Bldg., Manila International Container Terminal  
MICT South Access Road, Port of Manila, Manila 1012, Philippines  
☎ +632 245 4101 📠 +632 245 2245 ✉ info@ictsi.com  
[www.ictsi.com](http://www.ictsi.com)

ARGENTINA • AUSTRALIA • BRAZIL • CHINA • COLOMBIA • CROATIA • D.R. CONGO • ECUADOR • GEORGIA • HONDURAS • INDONESIA • IRAQ • MADAGASCAR • MEXICO • PAKISTAN • PAPUA NEW GUINEA • PHILIPPINES • POLAND • SUDAN